THE

AVNCIENT

Order, Societie, and Unitie Laudable, of *Prince Arthure*, and his Knightly Armory of the *Round Table*.

With a Threefold Assertion frendly in fauour and furtherance of English Archery at this day.

Translated and Collected by R. R.

Psal. 133. vers. 1. & vers. 4.

O how happy a thing it is and toyfull for to see,
Brethren together fast to hold the Band of Amitie.
Euē so the Lord bestoweth on thē his blessings manifold
Whose harts and minds without all guile, this knot do keepe and hold.

LONDON
Imprinted by *Iohn Wolfe* Dwelling in Distaffe lane neere the signe of the Castle 1583.

THE

ANCIENT

Jocund, Sociable, and Delightful

Laudable, or Princely Archery, and

Its Assembly Attorney at the

Round Table,

With a Threefold Assertion fresh and lively in-

tended and Furtherance of English

Archery, at this day.

Translated and Collected by R. R.

Geo. Stevens.

LONDON,

Printed by John Wolfe, Dwelling in

Elliotts lane next the Signe of the

Castle. 1583.

To the Right worshipful *M. Thomas Smith* Esquier chiefe Customer to *her Maiestie* in the port of London, and to *the worshipfull Socyety of* Archers, *here yearely celebrating the renowmed* memory of the magnificent *Prince Arthure and his Knightly traine* of the *Round Table*, Grace, Mercy, Peace, and Plenitude of temporall and eternall Beatitude in *Christ Iesus* our onely *Lord* and *Saviour*, Amen.

ISAAC *the Sonne of* Abraham *and childe of promise signified Ioy (Right Worshipfull Patrone and worshipfull good Citizens.) And* Iacob *his sonne otherwise called* Israel *signified strong with God, also by interpretation. Wherein as we see* Isaac *the father, Ioy goeth before, and* Iacob *the sonne strong with God followeth: This maketh a most apt mistery of Gods almightie power and wil, and a most conuenient order in accomplishing of the same. For as in those auncient* Ludis Sæcularibus *dedicated in honour of* Apollo *and* Diana, *the Trompeter ioyfully going before sounded the signification of some great Nouel which should ensue therupon, when he also said vnto the people,* Come to the games which no mortal man hath seene or shal see the like: *So here semblably portendeth this Ioye in the father before going some straunge or rare euent in the sonne strong with God following him. And so in deede it was. For,* Iacob *as we reade* Genes. 32. *wrestled with the Angel of God, and by prayer preuailing with him, bare away the blessing. And what was that? verely that he should thenceforth* Preuaile both with God & man. *This wrestling then may be a famous example, & an earnest tryal of al the faithfull children of God, by excellent enterprises and exercises of life euen in the beholding eye and sight of the same God of* Abraham, Isaac *and* Iacob. *The 12. Tribes of* Israel *proceding from* Iacobs *loynes were the Lordes elect & Gods peculiar people, and so mighty a Nation as none more mighty vnder the sunne, in whom the oracle of Gods Angel promised to* Iacob, *was altogither by Gods prouidence performed. These had a Ruler, euen* Moyses *ordained by God himselfe, and* Exod. 18. *one which spake face to face with God: He was commanded also to chuse men of courage ouer them as his Substitutes, namely Rulers ouer thousands, Rulers ouer hundreds, and Rulers ouer tennes, and it is written, that they made* Israel *a holy nation. The Lord him selfe also commanded these to set*

markes on the mountaine of Sina, and sanctifie it. He enioined them
Ibidem. yearely to celebrate the feaste of the Lordes passeouer, to obserue that day in
Exod.12. their posterity for euer. And in their peace time in the day of their gladnes
that they should blow their Trompets ouer their sacrifices and ouer theyr
Numb.10. peace offerings, that they might be a remembrance for them before their
God. Likewise in their warres to blowe an alarme with the Trompet, to
Ibidem. the ende they might be remembred before the Lord their God; and be sa-
ued from their enimies. And then did the same Moises as grand captaine
Ibidem. and guide go before them with the Arke of the Testament, the foresaid 12.
Tribes marching orderly after the same: for whose defence against their e-
nimies on a time he praied thus vnto God. Rise vp Lord and let thine
enimies be scattered, and let them that hate thee fly before thee.
And when the Arke rested he praied thus for them. Returne Oh Lord
vnto thee many thousands of Israel. Hercules in peace was famous
among the heathen for ordaining those games of wrestling, running & lear-
ned exercises at Olimpus by him dedicated to the honour of Iupiter. Ce-
sar in peace time prouident for warres was also famous among the Romains
for ordaining those sword plaies to the better exercise and encouragement of
young men against the time of nedeful wars the more boldly and skilfully to
encounter with their enimies. And Anthonius sirnamed Pius, in time
of warres was more famous among them for exercising al maner of mighty
and sauage beastes to be rid vpon and trained for the battel, as well as his
owne souldiours fearcely to foile his enimies: who of him selfe also was said to
be so coragius and valiant, that he slewe with his shafts 100. Lions of his e-
nimies power at one bickering. But Apollo aboue al others was most fa-
mous (in war times for recouery of peace) at Delphos when being named
the God of wisdome and Prince of Archers with his 1000. shaftes slaying
and nailing to the ground that perillous serpent Pithon, he deliuered the
people from perill thereof to liue in peace afterward, and betaking him selfe
thereupon to his pleasant pastime accustomed of hunting Deere and Goate,
did also institute by this his cheualry, those games in Latin called Pithij
after the name of the serpent slaine. All these foure (I say) were famous in
their estate and condition, for maintenance of cheualry and actuity in peace
time and warres: and haue their due commendations accordingly as it
standeth with credit: But bicause these were without the knowledge of god,
& mere prophane, therefore their actions, fame and memory are the more
obscure and lesse permanent with glory. But contrariwise immortal Fame
followeth the noble ordinances & actions of the Faithful which alwaies
haue bene, are and shal be within the watch of Gods heauenly Eie, within
the helpe of his holy hand, and within the precinct of his almighty and eter-
nall protection. As it is most notably verified by Ecclesiastes 10. cap.
where it is said, He that is cheefe among brethren is honorable,

So

So are they that feare the Lord in his ſight. *ver. 21.*

Here is that indiſſoluble band of amity betwene God & goodmen which the wiſe man affirmeth of Sap. 7. For ſhe is an infinite treaſure vnto men, which whoſo vſe become pertakers of the loue of god, and are accepted for the gifts of knowledge. *ver. 14.*

Here is that euerlaſting knot of peace & loue which the princely Prophet Dauid *ſo highly praiſeth betwene Brethrē in & for God their father. vizt.* Pſal. 133. As the dewe of Hermon which falleth vpon the mountaines of Sion, for there the Lord appointed the bleſſing of life for euer.

And here is that Round Table of cheefeſt Cheualry ordained by the Lord of Lords, and King of Kinges, euen Iehouah *the God of hoaſtes before whoſe heauenly preſence (of immenſe maieſty and immortall magnificence) enuironed round about with Patriarckes, Prophets, Princes, Apoſtles, Euangeliſtes, Angels, Archangels, and Soules of the righteous, inceſſantly ſhal be ſounded Amen.* Praiſed be God, praiſe ye our God al his holy ones, and ye which feare him, ſmal and great. Reuel. 19.

Amongſt which number of mighty Kings, Conquerours and Warriers in ſacred hiſtories moſt famous, (Right Worſhipful Patrone and worſhipfull Citizens) let not I beſeech you the noble ordenance of that princely Prophet and Conqueror King Dauid *dye in obliuion, but liue in your perpetuall memories, how he for maintenance of princely chiualry and knighthood, had not onely about him 30. Mighty men of armes, and of the 12. Tribes with him retaining a mighty number as it were like the hoaſt of God. But alſo the firſt ſtatute that euer he enacted after he was King, was inſtituted, that all the Children of* Iſrael *ſhould learne to ſhoote in the Bowe: which exerciſe by ſo noble and choſen a King eſtabliſhed as he mencioneth thereof many times in his Pſalmody. So I beſeech you remember how he promiſed the Lord of hoſtes,* That he as at a marke would aime to walke in the waies of the Lord. 1. Cron. 11. & 12. 2. Reg. 2. Pſal. 119. verſ. 15.

Our ancient Arthures *noble ordinance order and famous memory like as your Worſhips do yearely with worthy ſolemnity celebrate as the* Iſraelites *did their daies of gladnes in their peace time. So if I were worthy with Cicero to exhort you, to prefer al duty auailable to maintaine Neghborhood and fellowſhip of men aboue that duty which conſiſteth in knowledge & ſcience. I would herein encourage your worthy good wils to way and conſider what our moſt noble and famous Kings of* England *in that your famous accuſtomed exerciſe of ſhooting, haue moſt renowmedly enterpriſed & eftſoones renewed. But touching your famous order & fellowſhip of knights in ſhooting, though in K. E. 1. his time A valiant Knight and manly* Mortimer *at* Kenelworth *appointed a knightly game*, which was cal- Lib. 1. de offic. Ann. 1279. 5. Edw. 1.

led the Round Table of 100. knightes and so manie Ladies (*nameth not expressely shooting to be one*) yet for exercise of armes thither came many warlike knightes of diuers kingdomes. And the most famous
Ann. 1344. & victorious king E. 3. builded at Winchester an house called the
18. Ed. 3. Round Table of an exceeding compasse, to the exercise of like or farre greater Cheualry therin: When he also was the first king (for memory thereof most magnificent) which instituted euen there also the most noble order of S. George his knightes of the honorable Garter yet vsed: whose perpetuall fame for his princely actions, encouragement and euent by the exercise of shooting in his wars as I haue in this booke inserted as most worthy: So the
Ann. 1485. most famous, prudent, politike and graue Prince K. Henry the 7. was the
1. Henr. 7. first Phenix in chusing out a number of Chiefe Archers to giue daily attendance vpon his person, whom he named his Garde. But the high and
Ann 1509. mighty renowmed prince his son K. H. 8. not onely with great prowes and
1 Henr. 8. praise proceeded in that which his father had begon: But also added greater dignity vnto the same, like a most roial renowmed Dauid, enacting a good
Ann. 33. H. 8. cap. 9. & godly statute for the vse and exercise of shooting in euery degree. And furthermore for the maintenance of the same laudable exercise in this honorable City of London by his gracious Charter confirmed vnto the worshipful Citizens of the same, This your now famous order of Knightes of Prince Arthures Round Table or Society: Like as in his life time whē he sawe a good Archer in deede, he chose him and ordained such a one for a knight of the same order. After the conquerous Dauid ensuing the daies of a most prudent and peaceable Salomon, we reade he had also a puisant
Cantic. 3. power, 60. valiant men of the mightiest in Israel, & 24000. Lords of the
1. Cron. 27. Tribes of Israel monthly by course seruing through out the yeare: his peace and prosperitie in al respectes so surpassing his princely Progenitors, as the Quene of Saba seeing the same was astonished therat saying: Thou excee
3. Reg. 10. dest the fame that I hard: Blessed be the Lord thy God which loued thee to set thee on his throne as king in the stead of the Lord thy God. *ver. 8.* The like wherof (for the time he liued) as it appeared in that gracious Prince and blessed K. E. the 6. So since that tyme God hath for these many yeares much more manifested as wel to vs at home, as our neighbours about vs, the incōparable peace, prosperity & blessed estate of our sacred Salomon Queene Elizabeth and this her Maiesties Israel euen the allotted inheritance of the Lorde most admirable. This then being so true, as none can iustlie denie, Oh what Causes haue we al and euery one of vs highly to praise God therefore, and pray vnto him for the long continuance of the same. What causes of mutuall gratulation and reioising thereat haue we in al degrees, and to studie for the augmentation and preseruation of this aboundant blessednes. Herein for one minimus ex

minoribus

minoribus, *I acknowledge my selfe (Right Worshipful Patrone & Worshipful Citizens) answering with poore* Pederectus, *not worthy to be chosen in the number of 300. Which in this Citie for this purpose excell others in worthines of learning, liberal art or humaine dexteritie, but yet cherely and frendly I will take my leaue of your good Worships, reioicing that this Citie hath 300. such persons better then my selfe am in any point able to satisfie your so worthy and notable expectation: Notwithstanding thinking my selfe as much bounden herein as the best, and as much beholding vnto my countrie as the most which can do better, I haue brought forth at this present this simple show of my best abilitie & sincere good wil towards the premises. And as an addition vnto my last yeares translatiõ of the assertion of Prince* Arthure *incident in purpose and conuenient in order, I dedicate this ancient order, societie & vnitie of Prince* Arthur *& his knightly armorie, vnto you the famous & Worshipful president & to you the knights of Englisb Archery in the same order with a condigne commendation and encouragement vnto my natiue countrie vniuersallie therunto. Hũbly & hartely beseching you to accept in good part this my poore paines, as partly in fauour & furtherance of the lawdable exercise of shooting in this our prosperous peace time, vnder the blessed gouernment of this our so sacred* Salomon *Queene. The continuance whereof with continuall praier let vs all craue at the hands of the highest Iehoua that it would please him many mo yeares to multiplie the same in his manifold mercies, to the continuall honour and glory of his blessed name, our mutuall consolation in this our happy* Israel, *and to the publike comfort and commoditie of his vniuersal Church. And finallie that we with our neighbors & they with vs* Famously *continuing in the Concord & Vnitie of Christian* Faith, *& true religion of the Gospel of Christ Iesus: May in fine by his merites and mercies enioy those blessed Ioies celestiall which* Eie *hath not sene the like, eare hath not heard the like, nor hart hath not conceiued the like: Which God in mercy hath ordained for them that loue him. To whom be al power, dominion, praise, honor, and glory, for euer and euer,* Amen.

Plutarchus in Apophtheg.

Your worthy good worships most
humble and dutiful Orator

Richard Robinson Citizen of London.



A Praise of the Bovve and

Commendation of this Booke, *written by*
Thomas Churchyard Gent.

IN forraine land and natiue ſoyle, where ſoldiars I haue ſeen:
And chefly in the martial dais (whē youth was freſh & green)
I haue beheld both Bow & ſhot, the Bow for Archers meet:
The ſhot for vſe of powlders force, and lads of liuely ſpreet.
And iudging by experience great, in place where both were tried:
I found where ſhot was graunted good, the Bow was not denied.
Firſt ere we found out ſhot aright, the Bow great battels won:
And long the Bow great glory gate, before we knew the Gun.
As lo this Booke doth mention make, & ſhewes in verſes good:
For murthering ſhot came in of late, when Bovv *in honor ſtood.*
In elders daies when manhode ſhone, as bright as blaſing ſtarre,
And chriſtian hart and noble mind, diſdaind this turkiſh warre.
The Bow was vſed as force of mā, & ſtrēgth of arms might draw
To glad the frend and daunt the foe, and hold the world in awe.
But whē that ſtrēgth and courage fail'd, and cūning crept in place
The ſhot and roring Canon came, ſtout people to deface.

The

A Praiſe of the Bowe.

The Bow not fit for cowards hand, for cowards ſtrẽgth doth faile:
VVhen man drawes a row to the head, and then doth foe aſſaile.
With ſword and dagger Lion-like, that bends both brow and taile
And grins and gapes with gnaſhing teeth, to make his enemy quail
The ſhot lies lurking in a hole, and ſpies aduantage great:
Then bullet, match, and powders force, do work a wicked feate.
The Archer ſhowes a manly face, in field and euery where:
And when his arrowes all are ſpent, he dies with courage there.
The ſhot no ſooner all diſcharg'd, but legs for life muſt ſhift:
Theſe bold and venterous nimble boyes, can find no further drift.
But geue the charging horſmen place, the Archers do not ſo:
For foure and twenty headed ſhafts, belongs to euery Bow.
And ſurely ſhoote the Archers may, at many a thing ye know.
When men in broyles and battailes doubt, how warres and world
wil goe.
There is a knight a ſoldiar great, in court doth white ſtaffe beare:
That knowes what Bowes haue done in field, againſt both ſhielde
and ſpeare.
Yea many more are yet aliue, that honours Bovv indeed:
And can record what noble actes the Bow hath done at need.
I ſaw in ſundry ſoyles my ſelfe, much ſhot diſcharg'd in vaine:
Yet graũt we muſt that through the ſame are thouſands daily ſlain
But enterlard the ſhot with Bow, and tel me then your mind:
A gallant courſe of wars vnknown, in field then ſhal you finde.
Fiue thouſand Bowes that ſhooteth ſtill, in Battel may do good:
They gall the horſe, or kill the man, or draw ſome deſperate blood.
And thick as moates in ayer they flee, which hinder much the ſight
And haply makes when horſe is hurt, the mounted man alight.

VVel

A praise of the Bowe.

VVel, speak of shot what best you may, the Bovv *is braue in field:*
And sure in skirmish Archers oft, makes feeble shot to yeelde.
A rare deuise I will set out, to strengthen Man and Bovv,
And when the plaine deuice thereof the world shall see and know.
The Bovv *shall come againe in fame, and win his wonted grace:*
Looke out of hand for my discourse, til then come Bovv *in place,*
And take thine Ancient, rowme & vse, as Arthures *Knights thee gaue,*
Thou art a fearfull foe in field, and yet a pastime braue.
That brings vp youth, and pleasures age, a noble thing in view
An auncient arte, a worthy guise, that scornes all practise new.
An exercise that all men loue, an vse of Armes and strength,
And to this English soyle of ours, wilt bring great fame at length.
So cease I heere, in prayse of Bovv, *thinke of me what you please,*
A longer matter shall I show, before I crosse the Seaes.

Finis qd. T. Churchyard.

THE AVTHOR

his French Preface, thus Engliſhed.

WIlling I am to ſet down (for the beginning of this TREATICE) a briefe declaration and aduertiſement vnto the READERS, for their more eaſy vnderſtanding of the ſtate and Condition of ARMORY: And to knowe howe one ought to Blaſon the ſayde ARMORIES, Eſcuchons and Enſeignes, and ſuch other things of Semblable ſtate and manner. But firſt of all, wee will ſpeake and treate of him or them, who firſt founde out and inuented the deuyſe of ARMES, and for what cauſe the ſame was done.

Eccleſ 10.

The Glory of the Rich, Of the Honorable, and of the Pore, is the feare of God.

Of the Inuention of ARMES:

and for what cause the same were founde out: And of what Nacyon they haue beene established.

THE most valiant and victorious Alexander Sir named the Greate, for the excellency of his Noble dædes in Battell, & who was king of Macedony: Likewise the pollitike Iulius Cæsar, and many other Noble kings, Princes and Lordes (desiring to know how their Vassailes & Subiectes might beare them selues valiantly, and in communication treate of all dædes of Armes, and also to the end to ratifie their prowesses and valiencies, and that euery one were truely and iustly recompensed, according to his deseruinges, and that he had well deserued the same,) vouched safe to ordaine and institute, that in their Escucheons should bee painted or purtrayed Some certaine Figure, or likenes of any thing: whereby one might more easily knowe and discerne their dædes of Armes, and also for the better discerning and Judgement of their excellent valiantnesse. This Figure, Signe, Marcke or difference was called Armes: Which Armes haue beene assigned by the sayde Princes and Lordes, not onely of those same valiant and couragious Personages, but also by those of their blood and posteritie: To the end, that in Remembring the foresaide valiancies, they should be the more enclined, and encoraged to ensew and Imitate the Noble exploites of their Auncetors, which haue gone before them.

Of

Of the Matter or substance of ARMES, and whereof they are made.

ALL Armes are composed of Three things only, that is to say, of Mettall, of Couloure, or of Pens, alias Furres, or of any the sayde thinges. In Armes are onely two Mettals: That is to say, Gold and Siluer. Fiue Couloures are there also: 1. Gueules, or Red, which is of vermiliõ coulour, 2. Azure, which is of Pers or Blew: 3. Sable, which is Black: 4. Sinople, which is Green: and 5. Pourpre or Purple, which is made of Azure and Vyolet. And there are also two Pennes, or Furres, onely: That is to say, Vair, and Hermines.

And it is to be noted, that one ought to blazon on this maner. saying. vizt.

Such a Lord beareth of GOLD, of AZVRE, or of HERMYNES: and also the same COVLOVRES & the PENNES or Furres: And although that the Hermyne bee of Siluer and of Sable, and the Vair, bee of Siluer, and of Azure, yet, notwithstanding in blazoning, them wee must name them by Hermynes, of Siluer and of Sable, and not (onely) the Vair, of Siluer and of Azur: But wee say onely, Such a LORD beareth of HERMYNES, or hee beareth of Vair, seeyng that the Hermyne is of other Mettall or Coulour then Siluer, or Sable is: And that Sable and the Vair is of other Coloure then of Siluer or Azur. In which case wee say: Such a Lord beareth Vair and Hermynes, or of Synople, or other like.

Of the signification of Golde in Armes.

1.

1. GOLDE in Armes sygnifieth foure Vertues. viz. (1) Noblenes, (2) Good-will, (3) Restoratyue, & (4) Hautynes or Magnimity.
2. In Stones, it signifieth the Carboncle.
3. Of Planets it hath the Sonne.
4. Of the foure Elaments the Fyer.
5. Of Gomplexions: The Person Sanguyn.
6. Of the xii. Sygnes, Aries, Taurus and Sagittarius.
7. And Of the Dayes in the Weeke: The Sonday.

Of the signification of Siluer in Armes.

2.

1. SILVER in Armes signifieth fyue Vertues. viz. (1.) Humility, (2.) Beauty, (3.) Purity, (4.) Clearenes, and (4.) Innocency.
2. In Complexions: The Person Flegmaticke.
3. Of Planets: The Moone.
4. Of the foure Elaments: The Water.
5. Of the xii. Signes: Cancer, Leo, Scorpio and Pisces.
6. Of Precious stones: The Pearle.
7. And of the Dayes in the Weeke: Mondaye.

Of

Of the Signification of Gueles or Red in Armes.

3

1. GVELLES or Red in Armories, signifieth Valyantnes
2. In Complexions: The person Cholerique.
3. Of Elaments: Fyer.
4. Of the xii. Siges: Aries, Leo, and Sagittarius.
5. Of Precious stones: The Ruby.
6. In Mettalls: The Latyn Copper, and
7. Of the Dayes in the Weeke, Saturday.

Of the signification of AZVRE.

4

1. AZVRE in Vertue signifieth Renowme and Beauty.
2. In Complexions: The person Sanguyn.
3. Of the Planets, Venus.
4. Of the xii. Signes: Gemini, Libra, and Aquarius.
5. Of Precious stones, The Saphyr.
6. Of the Dayes in the weeke: Fryday.
7. Of the foure Elaments: The Ayer.
8. And of Mettalls, the Siluer; whereof wee make Azure cullor.

Of the signification of SABLE.

5.

1. SABLE, signifieth in ARMES, Mournyng & Sorow:
2. In Complexion, the Person Melancholique.
3. Of the seauen Planets, Mars,
4. Of the xii. Sygnes, Taurus, Virgo and Capricornus.
5. Of Precious stones, the Dyamant.
6. Of the Dayes in the weeke: Tewsdaye.
7. Of the Elementes, the Earth.
8. And of Mettalles, Iron: wherof, we make Blacke Colour.

Of the signification of SYNOPLE.

6.

1. SYNOPLE, or Greene, in Vertue: signifieth, 3. poinctes,
2. Honour, Loue and Curtesie.
Of the Seauen Planets, Mercury.
3. Of Precious stones: The Emeralde.
4. Of the Dayes in the weeke: Wensday.
5. Of Mettalls: The Quick-siluer, whereof greene couloure is
6. made: And it signifieth also: Plants, Trees, Herbes, and all greene thinges that groweth vppon the earth.

Of the signification of PVRPLE.

7.

1. POVRPRE or Purple in Armes signifieth moderation: and hath in Vertue 3. poinctes, Liberality, Aboundance, and Riches.
2. Of the Seauen Planets, it hath Iupiter.
3. Of Precious stones: The Balay.
4. Of the Dayes in the Weeke, Thursday.
5. Of Mettalls, it hathe Tynne.

Of Nyne thinges which are in the Escucheon making The third Part therof.

NYNE things there are in the Escucheon to be cõsidered of. Viz. Cheef, Pal, Band, or gard, Fesse, Cheuron, Gyron, Orle, Crosse, and Saultoir: These thinges ought to containe the Third Part of the Escucheon. And you shall also note, that Sixe of the sayd Nyne thinges, that it is to say: Band, Pal, Fess. Gyron, Cheuron and Orle, when they are of many peces they do blason them selues from one onely moity or quantity, as if we say: Such a Lorde beareth of GOLD, in one BAND of SABLE, of v. or vi. peeces.

Also more, when the Crosse and the Saultoir onely maketh the Third part of the Escucheon, Yet, notwithstanding, if hee haue in one Escucheon many Crosses, then ought he to blason, according to the nomber which is there.

Of

Of the nombre where vntill a

Man may nomber all Things which are in Armories: And when one ought to mencyon any thing without Nomber, or Strawyng.

TORTEAVX, or Pellets: Besans, and Cotices, Do nomber themselues vntill, VIII.

Lozēges or Dyamont sqwares, and Checquers, nomber themselues ontill, VI.

Beastes, Byrdes, Flowers and Fishes, and generally all other things which are in ARMES: Nomber themselues vntill, VI.

And if they passe the said Nombers: wee blazon them without nombring & Strewyng, As in the Armes of Laual where one mentioneth D'or, to xvi. AEgles d'Azure: And in those of Peulle, where one mentioneth D'or enterlased with AEgles, d'Azure without nombring. So, as one may finde them by the Figures tricked, and described in the blazon of Armes. Who so will knowe more, hee shall there finde written more largely, and also in the blazon of Coloures.

Thus much concerning knowledge of Armes blazoned: Wherof (the French Author vncertaine by name) on this maner introduceth.

NOw, To the Armorie of Prince ARTHVRE and the KNIGHTS of his Round Table flozishing by the fame of Englishe Archery, at this daye.

Ao. 1583.

ELIZABETH
Hæ graunt oure
With longe and
His glorye



(Gods Fulnes)
QVEENE to Raigne
Perfect Blessednes,
to Mentaine.

Prince Arthures Armes for that Society of Archers in London.

M. Thomas Smith Cheef Custmar for her Maiesty in the Port of London.



AMonges praiseworthy Monuments which English KINGES haue made
For maintenaunce of Manly acts, whose Fame shall neuer fade,
KING HENRY the 8. hath good right praise and Princely memory,
(For chusing Knights of ARTHVRES traine to mentaine Archery):
Whose Maiesty at Myle end with his NOBLES vsed this game,
That Citizens and Subiects all might exercise the same.
But specially for CITIZENS hee made this Order theare,
One Cheeftayne chose and certeyn Knights to sport them once a yeare.
His Daughter deare. ELIZABETH our Soueraigne QVEENE likewise,
Confirmes this Order still, and doth mentaine this exercyse
Eche Subiect pray and praise GOD for her long and prosperous Raigne,
Our Bowes in our handes stronger then with Honour shall remaine.

Anno. 1543. S. W. Bowyer Maior.

Anno. 1544. S. Martin Bowes. Maior.

Iob. 29.

S. Lancelot du Lac

I.

H. O.

IN Siluer Shield, Three Bandes of Blew
Hæ bare, full valyant hæ,
And ventrous was, one of the Cheefest
Approued in Cheualry:

Of knights which did the Table Rounde
adorne with condigne prayse:
His faites and fame in bookes compilde
Are founde in these our dayes.

S. Boort de Gauues

2.



IN Siluer Shælde with Hermynes Black
Hæ bare Three Bandes of Red:
Valyant and hardy was this Knight,
His Chronicles haue spred:

Who more of hun will knowe, let them
Reade of the Table Rounde:
Eke Lancelot his booke and thole
Which veritewes faine forth founde.

S. Gowaine de Orcany.

3.

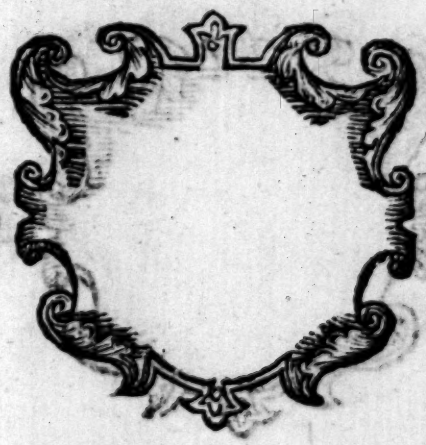


In Purple Shield, an Aegle spled
All Golde, Sir Gawayn gaue
One of the knights most conquerous
Hee merits fame to haue

Amongst them which the Table Rounde
Enobled with Renowne
By deeds of Armes in Contreyes cause,
To bring her foes adowne.

Meſsyr Triſtran de Lyonis

4.



In Sheeld all Greene one Lyon of Gold
And armèe Gules hee bare
That no leſſe worthy is this knight
Of fame, then others are,

For hee ſo vertuouſly behaued
Himſelfe in all aſſayes,
And valyant in his conqueſts, that
I Bowke his fame diſplayes.

Sir Lyonnet de Gauues

W. C.

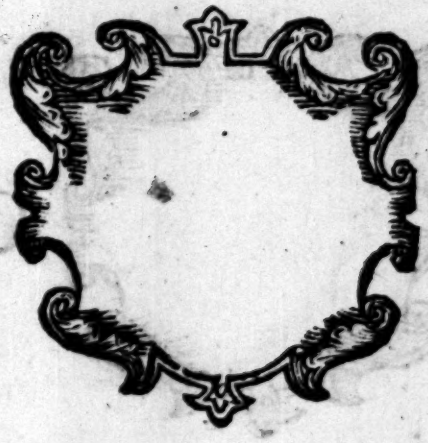


IN Siluer Shælde nyne Starres Sable
Thræ bandes of Red bare hæ:
A warlike wight, and worthy knight
As any others might bee:

And who considereth well his Armes
Including vertewes rare,
May him with the most valyantst knights
condignely heare compare.

Helyas le Blanc

6.



H.

IN Siluer Shæld 3. Barres of Red
One Lambeau ouerthwart
Of Sable, with thræ fæt, hæ bare,
As one which played his part,

About the Table Rounde Renowned,
And euer ready prest
For noblenes and honoures state
To do his very best.

Hector des Mares.

7.

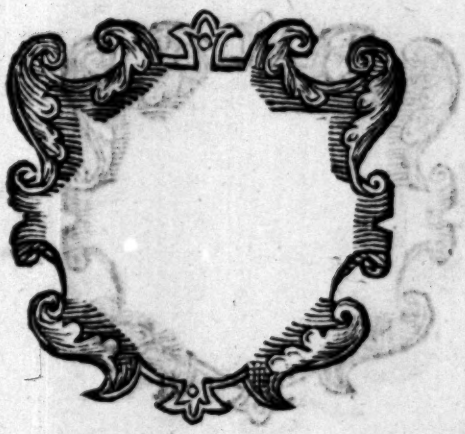
W.  O.

IN Siluer Shælde Three Barres all Red
A middes the same The Sonne
All Azure, bare this noble Knight,
Which highe Renowne hath wonne

By valyancy and venterous dædes
Exploited farre and neare:
Who doth deserue dewe memory
As fame may witnesse beare.

Blyomberyes de Gauues.

8.



In Siluer Shield with half Moones ſett,
Three Barres all red hæ bare.
Aboute the Table Rounde hæ was,
A conquerour moſt rare:

Who for his warlike prowesſe and
His Martiall mighty ſkill,
Was much eſtæmed, and of his Prince
beloued with great goodwill.

C

Meſsire Gaherryet.

9.



IN Purple Shælde, ſplead Aegle Golde
With fæte depainted Red,
A Barr all Red ouerthwart, hæ bare
Whole valiant actes compted

Amongſt thole of the Table Rounde,
As Launcelot and the reſt
May ſæme to calenge condigne praiſe,
and fame euen with the beſt.

Keux le seneschall.

10.



IN Azure Sheelde Two siluer Wings,
(By office Seneschall
Or Steward) bare this Noble knight
To whome might well bee fall,

With dew Renowme enregistred
For prowesse rare to bee
Amongst them of the Table Rounde,
Renowmed by valiency.

Meſsire Iuaine.

II.



IN Azure ſhield, A Lyon Golde
Armé with Red, this Knight
Did beare: who ſought to amplify
By all dew meanes and might

The Table rounde: hæ baliant was,
And hardy found in pꝛoof:
Theꝛefoꝛe hæ meꝛits memoꝛy
Unto his dewe behoof.

Bruor le Noir.

12.

W.  B.

IN Siluer Shælde, a Lyon Rampant,
y checquered Blacke and Red
(Of warlike nature conquerous)
He bare, eke Reputed

Amongst them of the Table Rounde,
Corragious, fierce and bolde:
He was, with prowesse euer prest,
Dame Honour to vpholde.

S. Segurades.

13.



T. T.

IN Golden Shælde, this gallant Knight
A Rock all Sable bare
One of the Table Rounde, hæ was
Of estimacyon rare,

Firme as Rock amiddes the Seayes
Eke stedfast hæ of mynde
was, all aduerlities to dure
from tyme to tyme enclyned.

S. Patris le Hardy.

14.



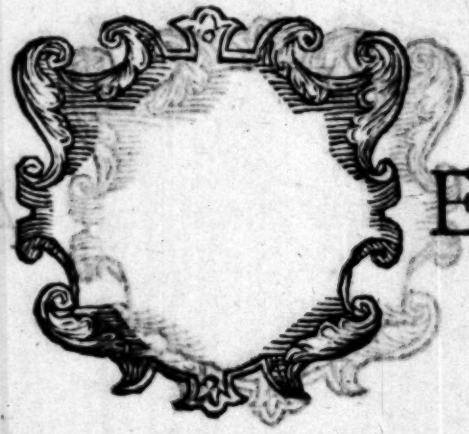
I. A.

IN Siluer Shælde a Freture Red
of pæces sixe bare hæ,
A true and perfect Practizer,
Of Noble Cheualrie,

About the Table Rounde eke one
full well which vnderstood.
Eche tricke and trauell longing to
Cheualrie and knighthod.

S. Saphar le Mescogneu.

15.



In Shælde one half part Gold and Greene
Ychecquerd, thother Vair,
Of great estate this knight did beare,
With hauty courage raire.

And though as tuching Parentage
Vnknowne, so named hæ was:
Yet by his dædes hæ was discernd
Most valiant in eche cale.

S. Sagremorle Desiree.

16.

B.  S.

In Sheelde (whereof Sable 3. partes)
Two Golden starres first there:
The fourth part Siluer with a starre
of Sable) did hee beare.

Both by his name and armes therfore
It doth appeare full well,
That hee one of the Table Rounde,
In prowesse did excell.

Le Roy Ban de Benock

17.

I. VV.



IN Siluer Shield Three Bandes of Blew
Did beare this kingly knight
And for King Arthures dewe Renowme
exprest his force and might

Dulce and debonaire hæ was
To serue at all assay
In euery Noble feate of armes
And beare the bell away.

Le Roy de Claris.

18.

T. H.T

IN Shælde of Golde one Crosse Potence
All Red this Noble king,
And kingly knight of Table Rounde
Did beare, most flozishing.

In faces and fame both farre and neare
For the magnificence
Of Princely prowesse, pricke and praise
To get by valyence.

Le Morhoult de Ireland

19.

T. M.

IN Siluer Shælde One feſſe of pæces
Fyue through out the ſame
Hæ bare a Lyon Rampant Red,
and arme græne, whoſe name

Might ſæme to ſignifie in truth
Eche mighty enterpriſe
A pray moſt fit for his Corage,
As is the Iriſh guiſe.

Danayn le Roux,

20.



IN Shield all Red a Porpentyne
Of Gold armé Azure,
This Knight bare, (of the Table Rounde)
One bould aud hardy sure.

Of quality hæ hath his name
Of courage venterous,
Of Pollicy and power also,
To bæ moſt conquerous.

S. Brallain, ſirnamed, as ye would ſay: Le Cheuallier aux deux Eſpées.

21.

T. C.



IN Shælde all Siluer Sable Bore
With thræ Blew Starres bare hæ
Whole faith and factes with glíſtering fame
Shine in the higheſt degræ.

As one whoſe vertues amplefied
His Princes highe Renowme
Amongſt thoſe cheef in Cheualry
About the Table Rounde.

Galehault,

22.



R. B.

IN Siluer Shœlde with Azure Starres,
A Lyon Red Rampant
Armé grœne this Knight dyd beare,
as one of force puissant

Which dyd the Table Rounde adorne,
And amplify also
With hautynes and valyancy,
As others many mo.

Lamorat de Liſtenoys

23.

VV.  H.

IN Purple ſhield, with Croſſets Golde,
A Leoperd Siluer hæ
Arme Red, did beare as one
Deſcended of degree

Both Noble bold and valiant
In feates of armes yfound
As other famous Knightes eke which
were of the Table Round.

Meſsire Gullat.

24.



VV. D. M.

IN Siluer Shælde, One Croſſe all Red
full Chriſtian like hæ bare
Of hart and courage conquerous,
A knight hæ was euen rare

Thus admirable was hæ held,
Well wæ may eke ſuppoſe
He wanne his armes, as Chriſtes frend
Ageanſt vnchriſtened foes.

S. Gueherries

M. C. B. S.



In Purple Sheelde bordered about,
With litle roundles Red
Spied Aegle Golde with Siluer feete
Hee bare emblazoned:

Of valyant corage prompt hee was
For to atcomplish tho,
All noble feates of armes, and gaine
Dewe fame that longd thereto.

Aggrauain le Orguelleux

26.



IN Purple Shælde, spled Aegle Golde
With Members Red bare hæ
Duerthwart the brest a Barre of Greene,
As one that seemed to bee

Of nature like vnto his name
Both fearce and promptly prest
With Martiall might still to surmount,
For fame and dow his best.

Dodynel le sauage

27.

W.  D.

In Siluer Sheelde Aegle Azure
Hee bare with Golden feete
Full Noble, mighty, valiant,
And therfore one most meete

For constancy and corage great
Enregistred to bee
Amongst them of the Table Rounde,
Renowmed by valyancy.

Oſement Coeur hardy

28.



A Shælde yquartered Siluer, and Red
Hæ bare in dæds the ſame,
Of valiant and coragius hart
as hæ was calde by name,

Whoſe vertues mæte to bæ aduaunſt
Dame Honour hathe aſſigned,
After his death by fame to lyue,
And to bæ borne in mynde.

Mador de la Port

29.



IN Sable Shælde Seauen Apples ſo
of Siluer couloured Red
This Knight did beare, whoſe nature well
to his Armes anſwered.

Dulce and debonaire, in vertue
One which was frutefull founde:
And therefore mæte amongſt the reſt
To adorne the Table Rounde.

Dynadem d'Estrangore



IN Siluer shield a Lyon Black
With Greene all armed hee
Did beare, one of the Table Rounde
Which eke in his Degree

Endeuoured with his Comperes
The state therof t'aduaunce
Not letting for any labour Toyle
nor any one mischance.

Eglantine Rochemont

31.

T. B.

IN Siluer Shælde the Ragged Staff
All Red did beare this Knight,
One of the Table Rounde hæ was,
which shewed his force and might

Strong and stedfast put in trust,
By tryall firme and sure.
A staffe of stay in all assay.
With houour to endure.

Guallogrenant de windesor.

32.



In Sheelde all Red Two Gemmels Gold
And Sable this knight bare
Coragius eke and conquerous
He was reputed rare:

Not shrinking to shew forth his force
And puysance allway prest
Aduenterusly and valyantly,
For fame to do his best.

F

Le beau COVART is the 32th Knight of the Round Table in S. Hierome de Bara his Blason des Armoiries, pag. 177. ed: 1581. 4. His Armes, azc: Sable, a horse saliant, d argent. Mould d'or. S.

Sir Brandelys

33.



In a Red Shæld 3. Swordes Siluer
Handles and pommells Azure
Thintitulation of his armes
Heare signifyeth sure

That hæ was actiue, warlike and
Could wælde his weapons well
To aduaunce Dame honours dewe renowme
Yer frowarde foes and qwell.

Sir Leonard le hardy

34.

VV. B.



IN Siluer Shield Three Lozenges
Of Siluer and Sable
Hæ bare and was a worthy knight
about the Round Table,

Whome though both God and Nature made
Deformd of Personage:
Yet by his doughty dædes hæ was
Most famous in that age.

Bruyant des Isles.

35.

T. B.



In Sable Shælde a Ronning Dog
Of Siluer armæ Red
This Knight did beare, of noble race
For hæ was descended:

Louing all honour and prowesse,
Dilpaching eke with spæde
By course and recourse to and fro,
What so hæ had decræd.

Henry le Ioyeux

36.



IN Siluer Shield Three Crosses fixt
Of Sable all beare hæ,
And not without cause had hæ name
As ioyfull one to bæ:

For pleasantly and curteously
Hæ could himself demene:
And in his Matters quite himselfe
Full manly this is plaine.

Meliadus del Espinoy.

37.

I. B.



IN Golden Shælde Three Crosses Red
Called Florones did hæ beare,
And was Sirnamed del Espinoy
By difference to appeare

From King Melyadus in race:
His Armes full Noble tho,
And of great approbation were
In Christian faith alto.

Meliadus le Noir oeil

38.



IN Siluer Shæld 3. Cheurons all
Of Sable, bare this knight.
Who in ech warlike enterprise
Did shew his force and might:

Though hæ Meliadus so was
Sirnamed with the black eye,
His vertewes cleare and sinceare yet
Were famous farre and nye.

Surados des sept Fountaines

39.

I. VV.



IN Shælde halfe Golde, halfe Azure eke
With Siluer droppes beset
This knight dyd beare, as one which was
in estimation great:

Sirnamed knight of Fountaines seauen,
By reason in eche place
Betwœue those Fountaines seuerall
He ranne his Martiall race.

Lucan le Bouteiller

40.



In Golden Shœlde A Wolf passant
Redd, armêe eke Sable,
This knight the Butler cald did beare.
One of the Rounde Table.

Fierce and greedy of his pray
whome that hee did purs'ewe,
And prompt ngaine with prowesse weare
And whome hee would reskewe.

Perſides le Gent

41.

VV. C.

IN Siluer Shælde, with Gonſtones ſet
Of Azure, bare this knight,
Though he Sirnamed Jentle was
Yet, theare no martiall might

Or warlike force did want in him,
To abandon furious fow,
With ſhot of gonne to ſhake or rend
Their force and ouerthrow.

Tuſcane le Romane

42.



IN Golden Shælde a Hand Sable
Holding a Swo:de All Red
This valyant Romane knight did beare,
Is Rightly reputed.

Of hart and co:age Conquerus,
Ready fo: Frend and foes
Both to defend, and to deſtroy,
His ſhaking ſwo:de hæ ſhowes.

Godfroy le Lacois

43.



IN Shælde All Red a Towre of Golde
Maconned with Sable
This Knight did beare and worthely well
Was of the Rounde Table:

A Fortreesse of fidelity,
And tower of truth was hee,
To saue his frendes, withstand his foes,
And purchas dignity.

Thor le Filz de Arez

447



A Golden shield, most seemly set
With Sable trosses short
This knight did beare, at which his armes
might trewly well import,

That hee was valyantly inclyned
To feates of armes, no lesse
Studing honour to augment,
His fame and to encrease.

Perceual de Galles

45.

W.  A.

A Purple Shælde with Crollets Gold,
Belet this Knight did beare,
As hæ in voyde allotted place
Of the Rounde Table theare,

Which sat him downe in seate ordained
As for A Bachellour:
Of whome a Booke compild there is
With fame and dew Honour.

Sadoc de Vencon

46.



A Shield, wherin a Sea was set
Of Siluer and Sable
This knight did beare, which signified
A mistery admirable.

Some great and profounde prowesse sure
Theare seemed in him to bee,
With ebbes and flowdes of prosperus state
And of aduersity.

Gringadois le Fort

47



IN Sable Shælde, an Vnicorne
All Siluer, bare this knight
Beloued for his vertewes rare,
And for his Martiall might.

Strong, valyant, and victorius
Agenst his noysome foo
Comforting and relcewyng frendes,
Which were distrest also.

Malaquin le Galoys

48.

W. T.

IN Siluer Shælde, A Siluer Cup
ycouered this knight bare
Which with thole of the Table Rounde
For vertue might compare.

Ne could they want his Company,
Nor Prince his prowelle mille,
In all thole conquelts, dædes of armes,
And other leates of his.

Talemot le Volant

49.84



I.T. R.W.

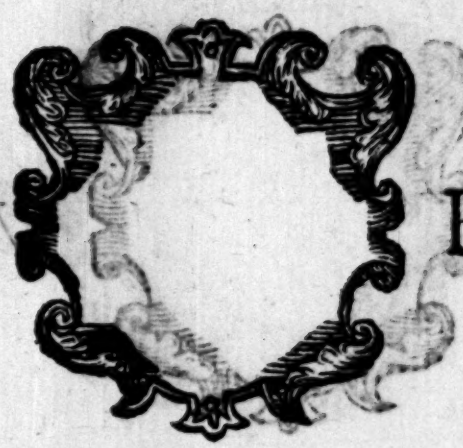
IN a Greene Shield, A Siluer Doue
Membres Red this knight
Did beare, so swift in valyant race
As Doue was in her flight,

Embracing honour with both winges
Deuoide of Enuyes gall,
Aduauncing vertewe, loue and fame
Surmounting therewithall.

S. Lalain d'Astolat (nowe Guldeford) was also a Knight of the Round Table nº. 79. whose Armes are, gueules, a ship d'or furnished, or trimmed purple; Hieromé de Bara, in le Blason des Armoiries pag. 190. edition at Lyon: 1581. in folio.

Arain du Pin

50.

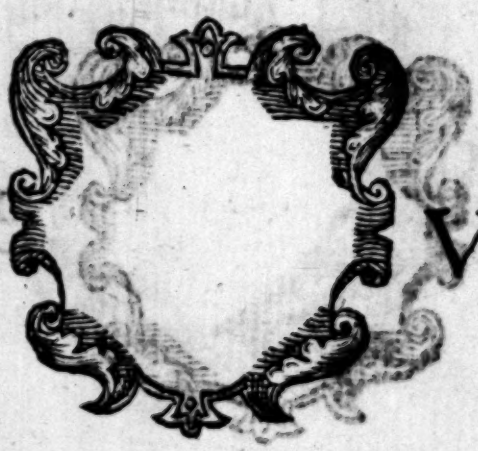


A Greene Sheelde with 3 Pyncaples
All Golde this knight did beare:
Why hee so called was, (The cause
Not small) may well appeare.

First for his lofty offspring, next
For honour, vertewes hyre,
Thirdly for fame most florishing,
Whereto hee did aspyer.

Meſsire Palamides

51.



A. VV.

A Shælde of Siluer and Sable
Ychequered bare this knight,
Is what hæ was, and whence hæ came
By name that so hæ hight:

It ſæmes hæ was by valyancy
An Imitato2 trew,
Of that Noble Palamydes
From Troy, wich did ſlew.

Sir Hebis

52.



VV. B.

IN Shælde, two parts Sable with
Two Barres thereon Argent
The third part Azure with demy pale
Yeallow and Blew content.

About the Table Rounde although
One of the last hæ bee,
Yet for his seruice iust and trew
Not least was his degree.

S. Lamwell of Cardyff

53.

E. P. V.

A Shælde Red, where (a Lady fayre
In Mantell clothed Greene,
On Siluer pallrey mounted is,
As though shæ were some Queene)

This knight did beare: as one which did
By seruice dewe attend,
Or els in some distressed cale
His Lady deare defend.

S. Phetipace of VVinchelsey

54.

T. C.

A Sheelde four partyed Gold and Blew
A pale Argent downeright,
With 3. Red Crosses ouerthwart.
A Barre of Sable pight

This knight did beare: betokning well
Noblenes and Renowne:
Which liues aloft by lasting fame,
Though Death and Dolour frowne.

S. Plaine de force

55.



IN Golden Shælde a Fesse all Red
With an arme armèe Argent
Holding a Siluer Columne broke
Hæ bare, whereby is ment

To his Sirname, as full of force
His nature right did græ,
Wrestling with one which was most strong,
By strength got victory.

S. Bodovier of VVinchelsey

56.



A Shæld half Argent with a Fesse,
A Tryangle, therein eke Red.
With thræ mullets Azure, thother half Gules
A Siluer Arme holding a Sword armed,

The handle of Gold, this knight did beare:
As one which was of highe estate,
Adding thereto such valyant acts,
Which dubbed him knight twice fortunate.

S. Degraine ſans Mal

57.



A Shæld, the firſt part Red, an Arme
Siluer armed, with Ring of Gold,
The ſecond part vert and Azure, the thirde
Gold & Azure, the 4 part Gules doth hold.

Hæ bare theſe, as by valyant force,
Reaping Reward for vertewes rare,
Deteſting all vice (thus reuyded fame) (pare,
May him with moſt worthieſt knights com-

S. Pryamus

58.

T. H.

IN Sable Shæld Three Gryffons Golde
Paſſant Carbonckled with eke Golde
This comely Knight condignely bare
For his demerites manyfold,

As whether hæ were S. Pryam of Troy
Or els from whence hæ haue his name,
Great was his force, his foes to anoy,
Defending his Frends from harme & blame.

Here ende the Knights names and
their Commendations.

Retaine the Good, Refraine the ill.
Repute not amiſſe of my Goodwill. ℣. Richard. R.

A Breefe Repetition

of the Table Rounde.

IN ſo much as wee haue ſpoken of the Noble Knightes of the Round Table, which were in the tyme of the moſt Magnificient King Arthure of Great Brittayne, and that wee haue in briefe and roundly explained the deuiſe of euery their Eſcucheon and plaine Armories: It is good as mee ſeemeth and of great congruity to declare alſo ſome what, of the eſtate and inſtitution of that Round Table. Becauſe peraduenture many which haue ſeene thoſe Armories, may yet bee ignorant what thing ỹ Round Table was. I ſay therfore ỹ the Rounde Table was one ordenance and inſtitution which King Arthure of great Britayne made and ordained, (as I haue layde): And it was on this maner made to defend the Iland of Malogres within the ſaid Kingdome of Great Brittaine. By this ordenance ought & were bound to come & aſſiſt him once in the year at ỹ feaſt of Whytſontyde all trauayling Knights, and theare to enranck themſelues at the ſayd table, and were ſet downe in great honour and reuerence, feaſting in the preſence and Companie of the ſaide King Arthure. And moreouer, euery Knight of this order was bound to rehearſe and recon vp all his feates of armes, valyant actes and conqueſtes which they had erployted, by the labour and trauaill of their Bodyes for the honour of Nobility, and eſtate of Knighthood and as well for the honour of their Ladyes as for other purpoſes tending vnto al honour and glory: In ſuch ſort that they all, and euery of thẽ ſo aſpired to that eſtate, that they mightely amplified the ſaid Round Table, whereby the nomber of them was very great. Like as one may ſee by their Armories and Eſcucheons, which haue beene aſſembled together, and ſo blazoned: to th'ende that they which ſawe and behelde them

might

might take good Example thereat, and better vnderstande the condicion of the Arte of Warre: And so knowe what the estate of Nobility and Knighthood were for the augmẽtation of vertewe and attainement of Glory and praise. Whereby many young Princes and Lordes might come to more greate perfeation in followinge the feates and dædes of them which were also nombred and named The Knights of the Rounde Table, or trauelings Knights. And it was no maruaile made amõgst them if such personages (as exploited euery excellent dæde of armes and matters of prowesse) were be loued: Because Honour and Glory, are the Rewardes of Vertue, as saith the Philosopher. And for so muchas (euery one seeing him selfe to bee beloued and reuerenced) that same vertewe which in him is loued or embraced of others, encreaseth & is augmented more and more: I speake thus much for the Imitation of those which are vertewous. and for the nature of the Imitation of vertue it selfe. Ye haue here seene in open appearãce therfore the escutcheons, deuises & Armories of the noble & valiant Knights of the Round Table, which you may beholde & consider of to the same effect and ende.

Psalm. 145. Vers. 11. & 12.

Gods Saincts do blesse him, and they do His Kingdomes Glory show,
And blase his power to cause the Sonnes of men the same to know.

Psalm. 149. Vers. 2.

Let Israell reioyce in him, that made him of no thing,
And let the Seede of Syon eke bee Ioyfull in their King.

THE FIRST ASSERTION
and is Sacred Hiſtoricall.

GOD the Author of Peace and Loue did ſo therein delyte,
That of one Man hæ Members twaine dyd make & them vnyte:
Genes 2. & 3 To whom when Children twaine hæ gaue, the more to multiply
This Peace and Loue, Sathan poſſeſt one of them by and by.
Cayn it was who did maligne His Brother Habell ſo,
That hæ ne ceaſt by cruell Death this bond to breake in to:
Wherefore when hæ had ſlew left, the Lorde of loue decræde,
Chap. 4. That Cayns hatred ſhould hæ reued for that his filthy dæde.
In G. Alleij. Hiſcella- nea. As learned Lyra writes thereon how Lamech old and blinde:
With Bow and ſhafts did walke the woods, ſome wiſhed pray to finde.
His Boy that lead him through the ſame (as ſæmed him) eſpyde
Some beaſt, which nathles Cayn was, where hæ himſelfe did hyde,
Genes 5 So that (ſaith Lyra,) Lamech ſlew a man there in his wounde:
To heare was harmles Abels death with his reuenged founde.
If Lyra thus wee may belæue, Lo here the Bowe and ſhaft,
Ordained Gods weapon of reuenge on Murders cruell craft
Lo here the Bowe and arrowe, was firſt choſen inſtrument,
As guerdon dew for wicked dæde by Goddes moſt iuſt iudgement.
Chap. 9. A Figure of Goddes Peace and Loue the rayne bow yet was ſet,
As couenant twirt him and the earth that hæ no more would let
The furious flods conſume the Lande, which frutefull afterward
Hæ made for humaine vſe to ſerue his choſen and ſauegard.
Geneſ. 23. Iſmael in the wildernes an infant crying lay,
Gods Angell heard the ſame, and did vnto his Mother ſay,
Hagar ſæ thou hæ of good cheare, thy Childe vp forthwith take,
And cheriſh it for God will ſure a People great him make.
So this Child grewe, and it is ſayd an Archer hæ became
And afterward in the wildernes did dwell, called Paran.
Geneſ. 27. Iſaac waxing old did byd Eſaw his eldeſt Sonne,
His Bowe and quyuer for to take into the fældes and ronne,
To kill ſome venſon, which hæ did, but yet in the meane while,
Iacob the younger brother could full kindly him beguyle:

Whereby

Whereby we ſee whom God doth loue, vnlikely though they ſeeme,
Are ſoneſt bleſt, when worldlings of their will are fruſtrate cleene.
Ioſeph the ſonne of Iacob ſo found fauour with his God, Geneſ. 49.
That He was reconed as a braunch which ſhould increaſe abroad:
Of him t'is ſaid, His Bow bode faſt, his armes eke ſtrengthened were,
Euen by the handes of Iacobs God as did full well appeare.
Ruben, Gad, and halfe Manaſſe Tribes thræ elected, in field
With manly might did ſhote in Bow, and carry ſword and ſhæld: Leuit. 1.
What time with Hagarites Iethur, Nephis, and Noab they
Fought valiantly, the Lord did them aſſiſt in all aſſay. 1. Paral. 5.
Ioſuah diſcomfiting fiue Kings, (though Tribes that did him ayde, Ioſuah. 10.
As there to handle Bowes and ſhafts are not expreſſly ſaid) Verſ 13.
Yet there a Booke is mentioned, euen Iaſhar ſo by name, Or Liber
Not now in vſe (which ſome affirme) ſhowed ſhotings auncient fame.
And ſure the Lord Iehoua himſelfe doth meane thereby his power, Deu. 32.
When threatning wiſe the wicked ones he brings thus in terror,
His Arowes on them he will ſend (he meaneth in angry moode:) Verſ. 33.
And eke His Bow that he will bend, And dye his ſhafts in bloud: Verſ. 42.
Theſe ſhafts of his ſo ſharpe no ſtone can cauſe them to rebound,
But through the thræfold armed coate they pearce with mortal wound.
Balaam in his prophecie of Iſraels happy ſtate, Nume 24.
Saith, that his force the Vnicorne in ſtrength ſhould coequate. Verſ. 42.
The Nations, he ſhould eate alſo, and browſe his enemies bones:
Yea, He ſhould ſhoot his Arowes through thoſe great & mighty ones.
Debora ſhe euen Baracks wyfe who iudged Iſraell, Iudges. 5. ca.
In that her ſong for victorie, which God gaue her, doth tell,
How God deliuered Iabin King of Canaan to her hand,
Whoſe Archers noyſe was ſo appeaſt eche were throughout her Land,
That where none earſt could water draw, now all deuoid of feare,
Might haue inough ſith thoſe their foes ſo happily banquiſht were.
Whereby we note, although the wicked ſuch defences haue,
Yet for becauſe in vſe of them Gods goodnes they depraue,
And arrogate vnto themſelues, all glorie, hope, and praiſe,
Therefore their good things turne to euill ſometime, if not alwayes.
Hanna the wife of Elcana when ſhæ did pray ſo ioyed, 1. Samuel 2.
The Bow with mightie men was broke to her rebuke employed:
And waykeilngs girded forth them ſelues with ſtrēgth (ſhe ſaid) like mē
As who ſay God makes ſimple ſoules do great things now and then.

Ionathas, the Sonne of Saule king Dauids mortall foe,
Was Dauids faithfull Frend, when hée this watchword gaue him to,
1. Samuel 20. Cap. That hée should thrée dayes hyde him by the stone Ezel by name,
During the time of Saule his wrath and furious raging flame.
Then Ionathas sayd hée would shoot thrée Arrowes at that stone,
As at a marck, and after hée would make a Boy to rome,
And seeke the shaftes, when if I say vnto the Boy once, (See,)
The arrowes are on this side thée, bring them and come, saith hée,
The matter then goeth well for thée, no hurt as liueth the Lorde:
But if I say vnto the Boy, (Behold:) by this watchworde,
The arrowes are beyonde thée, then, make haste and get thée away,
For God hath so dismissed thée, This Ionathas could say.

1 Samuel. 31. Cap. Saule and Ionathas his Sonne, with his two Brethren mo,
When the Philistyans fought with them, felt God his iudgements so
By the Archers and Bowemen of th'vncircumcysed theare,
Saule wounded was, but his thrée Sonnes outright dispatched were.
Dauid then before hée was of Iuda annoynted King,
Duer Saule and Ionathas moarned, thus lamenting,
The Bow saith hée of Ionathas turned neuer back in vaine,
Neither Saules Sword once empty went from the blod of the slaine:
Sée theare the minde of Goddes elect, in doyng good for ill,
Sée pity showed for cruelty, for mallys eke goodwill.

2 Samuel. 1. Cap. Dauid enduring yet long warres euen with that house of Saule,
By Goddes goodwill exalted was, when his foes had the falle,
And prospered so that hée was King ouer all Israell;
Hée conquered Ierusalem and Iebusytes so fell,
Who did deny him to come theare, when yet victoriously,
Hée wan the Castle of Syon, which hée called his Citty,
1. Croun. 11. When hee made Ioab generall, which Iebusites first smote,
With whome were mighty Men of armes euen many a one to note:
1. Croun. 21. When one or other of twelue trybes came to him day by day,
Vntill he had a full great hoast, Like the hoast of God to say:
Who doth consider well all this most amply may beholde,
Gods fauour towardes Dauid chéef and mercies manyfold.

Psalm. 89 D Luthers Wordes. So as Hee againe A man was founde euen after Goddes owne hart,
Yea a King to whome both faith and promise God did sure imparte:
Whose Psalmody his sacred zeale to Godwardes did declare.
Whose Regiment did shewe for his a Princely prudent care,

As when he first enacted that eche Childe within his Lande, 2. Sam. 1. Chap. verſ 18.
Should be inſtructed for to ſhoot, their Enemies to withſtande.
In peace time prouident for warres (he ſaid): He was at peace, Pſalm. 119.
With them that hated peace: In warres, he did at no time ceaſe,
To ſerue his God, that he would graunt aſſured ſtate and ſtay, Idem. ve. 15.
As at a marke that he might ayme to walke ech godly way.
For why, he had experience good, whome God doth ſo elect,
Ought not to feare what euer fall, his duty to neglect:
But truſteth, God hath mortall Darts, yea arrowes keene and ſharp, Pſa. 7. ver. 14.
For them that him do perſecute, whiles they do miſchief warp:
And though the wicked bend their Bowes, & make their Arrowes preſt Pſal. 11. ve. 2.
To ſhoot in ſecret, and to hurt the ſounde, and harmles breſt:
Yet God his fiery Thunderboultes can caſt them heare and theare, Pſalm. 18. verſ. 13.
And with his fiery lightning ſhafts can foyle his foes with feare:
And as a marke he will them ſet, in a moſt open place, Pſal. 21 verſ. 12.
And charge his bow-ſtrings readily againſt his Enemies face.
Gods Arrowes ſharp and keene which are, their harts ſo ſore ſhal ſting, Pſalm. 45. Verſ. 6.
That Folke ſhall fall and knéele to him, as to the mightieſt King:
In Syon brake he ſhaft and bowe, the ſworde, the ſpeare and ſhielde, Pſal. 76. Verſ. 3.
And brake the Ray, to ouerthrow the Battell in the fielde:
So that his Children ſhall not feare, nor yet become affright, Pſal. 91. verſ. 5.
For all the ſhafts that flye by day, nor terrour in the night.
Yet for an ordenary meane King Dauid doth aduance,
The Bowe and ſhaft, as mans defence, and for his foes noyance:
Extolling eke the exercyſe by that ſame troupe or traine,
Of Shooters, which in peace or warres Gods glorie do maintaine.
As when their Children come to age (ſaith he) and actyuenes,
Oh well ys he whoſe quyuer with ſuch ſhafts the Lord doth bleſſe: Pſalm. 127. verſ. 4. & 5.
Whether Prince ſo peopled be, or Parent Children ſuch,
And ſo many be bleſt with all, they nede not feare the gruch,
Or greeuous force of Enemy, If God be on their ſide: Rom 8.
In which reſpect the prayer of Dauid may be applyde,
When for Gods ſafe deliuerance from eche ſuch Enemy, Pſalm. 147. Verſ. 6.
(Thine Arrowes ſhoot and them conſume) vnto the Lorde prayth he.
Then ſeeth he, God taking his parte, it nought his foes ſhall bote,
For, They no hurt at all ſhall do, when they their ſhafts ſhall ſhoote: Pſalm 58. verſ. 7.
So Dauid and his Princes all after his warres, offered,
Towards the building of Gods houſe, and thankes to him rendred,

1. Croun. 29. And when he had raigned .xl. yéars iuſt ouer Iſraell,
In his owne Citty hé ſlept and lay, which Zyon was to tell.
1. Reg. 2. Whoſe Sonne that wiſe King Salomon ſucceéded in his throane,
A Prince of peace and glory ſuch, as like was neuer a one:
Him all the foreſaid Potentates, in eche thing méete obaide.
His charets .xiiij C. tho, and Horſemen, it is sayde,
2. Croun. 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. Twelue M. were which hé nothing ſo much had care vppon,
As for to builde the Temple, and to pray in Gibeon,
To kéepe the Arck yerde peace offrings, and ſtill aduance Gods worde,
With inſtruments of muſick ſwéete lauding the liuing Lorde:
2. Croun. The race of whoſe Raigne .xl. yeares then béeyng conſummate,
In the City of Dauid eke he ſlept intumulate.
Aſa King of Iuda did deſtroy all Idolles theare,
Commanding his, the lyuing God truly to ſerue and feare:
2. Croun. 14 Ere hé with the AEthiopian King and his huge hoaſt would feight,
He prayde vnto Iehoue, and hé did heare his prayer ſtreight:
Of the trybe of Beniamyn, which bare both Bow and ſhield,
A valiant hoaſte hé had which got the victory in that fielde.
3. Cro 17. Iehoſophat of Iuda King, his fathers rowme poſſeſt,
Who proſpered truſting in his God, and was with riches bleſt,
He toke of Strangers tribute, and had of Beniamyns trybe
200000 warlike wights with Bowe and ſhéld to byde.
Ahab, King of Iſraell, in following the aduiſe,
4. Crou. 18. Of thoſe 400 Prophets dyd but fondly enterprize,
At Ramoth theare in Gilead geanſt the King of Aram,
To feight, regarding not Michah, euen then a certen Man
Drewe a Bowe and ſmote Ahab betwéene his ioyntes and eke
The Brigandyne, that ſo hé dyed to late for helpe to ſéeke.
4. Cro. 26. Vzzia choſen to be King of Iuda dyd obay
The Lorde Iehoue, and on a time did giue a bold aſſay,
To warr againſt the Phyliſtens, with bowes and arrowes fell,
And God in eche his enterprize dyd proſper him full well.
Ioſyas King of Iuda, was a Prince of godly mynde,
The temple he reſtored, and his prayer heard did fynde,
2. Cro. 35 When he a couenaunt made with God. But when vniuſtly hé
Geniſt the AEgiptian King would feight neglecting Ieremy,
And that ſame King which did dehorte him from that wilfull feight
The Archers ſhot and wounded him vnto the death there ſtreight.

Iehu annoynted of the Lorde, toke bowe and arrowes heene, 2 King.9.
And strongly smote Iehoram tho, his armed armes betweene
The arrowe pearst euen through his hart, God would it so to bee,
The whoordomes of their Iesabell, and witch-crafts plagued hee.
Elysha sayd vnto Ioas, then king of Israell 4.King 13.
Open a window Eastward and, shoote as I shall thee tell:
The Arrow of health that it may bee, The Arow of the Lords health,
Against all Syria to subuert them and their common wealth.
Iob, when the Lord afflicted him, by Metaphor did mone Iob.16.
The Lorde hath set mee as a marke (saith he) for him alone,
And that his Arches hemd him in, and compassed him rounde,
They spared mee no whit (saith he) but sore my loynes did wounde:
When eke Gods iudgements in his wrath vpon the vngodly,
Hee prooues doth light to their deserts, he saith, though they do fly
The Iron weapons warlike yet, with the Steele bow they shall Iob.20.
Bee shot, and on them shaftes most sharp by lots must light and fall:
But nombring vp Goddes benefits on him then multiplide. Iob 29.
His bow, with honour stronger dyd in his owne hand abide.
Esay, the Prophet of the Lorde, when he dyd prophecy Esay.5.
Of Ierusalems Ruine, and of her captiuity,
Pronounced vnto her Goddes wrath, in these woordes verament,
That all Goddes arrowes sharp should bee, and all his bowes eke bent.
Foretelling how Ierusalem for sinne, beseged should bee Chap. 7.
With arrowes and with bowes shall one agenst her come, saith hee.
Ere that the Medes and Persians should Babylon destroy: Chap. 13.
With Bowes (saith hee) they shall assaile thy Children to anoy.
Of Idumeas rupn and, of all Arabyas to:
He verifying said, they fled from drawne sword and bent Bowe, Chap.21.
And that the residew which were euen their owne Archers strong,
Of Kedars Sonnes a few or none should them be found among.
The same Esay reporteth eke, when Hezekiah King
Of Iuda heard the blasphemy of Rabsechas rayling. Chap. 37.
Sent from Senacherib, he asked counsell of Esay.
Who promisd him the victory, and that without delay.
But as for the Assyrian king, he neuer enter shall
This Citty, nor once shoot a shaft (saith hee) to worck her thrall.
This Prophet tells when as the Lord would chuse his people so, Chap.41.
Subdewing kings he gaue them as The dust his sworde vnto,

And ſcatered them vnto his Bowe as ſtuble, ſignifiyng.
No power can ſcape his mightie hand, him to reſiſt applying.
He prophecyeth in the perſon of (Chriſt) the faithfull to aſſure,
That God his ſecret fauour, and his feruent loue ſhould dure,
Towardes them. Vnder the ſhadowe of his hand, he hath hyd me,
Chap 49. And in his quyuer a choſen ſhaft he me hath hydd, ſaith he,
Laſtly, I read that Eſay ſaith, God will his Church enlarge,
Chap. 66 By the Apoſtles, Miniſters, and his Diſciples charge:
In Affrica, Cilicia, in Parthia, and Italy.
To them (he ſaith) that draw the Bow, not knowing his glory,
Nor haue not heard his fame as yet, ne yet his glory ſeene,
To thoſe ſame Gentiles preach he will, that they may him eſteeme,
Chap. 50. Ieremy, in prophecying of Babylon that whore,
Her wickednes and Idolles (ſaith) God will them plague full ſore,
And that of mightie Nations, he, a multitude will bring,
Out of the North (in batle aray,) themſelues enarmouring:
Verſ 9. Their Arrowes ſhall be as of one that is moſt ſtrong certaine:
And expert too, for none of them ſhall once returne in vaine:
He ſhowes, the Lorde commaunds, they ſhall Put themſelues in aray,
Verſ. 14 Geanſt Babell round about, all ye (that bend the Bowe) I ſay.
Shoote at her (ſaith he) ſpare no ſhaftes, for ſhe againſt the Lorde
Hath ſinned, ſo that he the ſame hath greuouſly abhorde.
The voyce of them that flee and ſcape from out of Babylon
Verſ 28. Shall be, To ſhew (Goddes vengeance great ouer her) vnto Syon,
Call vp the Archers geanſt Babell, all ye that bend the Bowe,
Beſige her round about, let none eſcape, nor hye nor lowe,
Reward her after her owne workes, for ſhe hath ſinned. Thus
Saith Ieremy, ſhall ſhe be ſerued for ſinnes flagitius.
Yea, more he addes that: Many Kings from th'earth ſhall raiſed be
Verſ. 41. Againſt her, they ſhall holde the Bow and Buckler, eke ſaith he:
Chap. 51. But drawing nearer to her end (To him that bendes the bow,
Verſ. 3. And him that lifts vp brygandyne, by theſe wordes he doth show,
The Lord will ſay, ſpare not her youngmen, but ſlay all her hoaſt,
Verſ. 10. Make bright the Arrowes, gather the ſhields, as if ye ſpare no coſt:
The Lord hath raiſed vp the ſpirite in the King of the Medes:
His purpoſe is geanſt Babell, to deſtroy her feete and heades.
Chap. 51. And afterward, he verifieth: The ſtrong men of Babell
Verſ. 56. Are taken, and their bowes are broke: God graunt it hap ſo well:

But

But in his Lamentacions yet, this Prophet doth auowe,
God bent his bowe, and made him as a marke for the arrowe:
The arrowe of his quyuer he cauſed to enter into my raines.
This ſpæch doth ſhew the Prophets griefe, for his frends griefe & paines,
Ezechiel much alike foreſheweth of Gog and Magogs fall,
Which fought againſt Gods People ſore, and that with power not ſmal
Wherefore, the Lord of hoaſtes by him doth fearcely thus inuay
Gogs Bow out of his left hand, he will ſmyte and daſſhe away.
And out of his right hand will cauſe the Shaftes to fall downe flat.
A fyre on Magog will he ſend, ſo as forthwith on that,
They which inhabite Cityes do, throughout all Iſraell
Shall go forth and ſet fiery flame vppon his weapons fell,
Vppon his ſhields and Bucklers, and vpon eche ſhafte and Bowe,
Yea vpon their ſtaues euen in their handes, to burne them on a rowe,
For ſeauen yeares ſpace: Thus ſaith the Lorde, at my table ye ſhall
With Horſes, Charyots and valiant men of Warre be filled withall,
So that the Lorde himſelfe doth ſay, by this Prophet Ezechiel,
Iacob I will redeeme and ſhewe mercy on Iſraell:
Oſeas the Prophet well concludes then this ſaid prophecy,
With bow nor ſworde God his will ſaue, but with his mere mercy.
Zacharias zealus in the Lorde confirmes a truth twofolde,
Threatning Gentiles deſtruction, which are ſo wilfull bolde,
To warre againſt the Lordes Iuda, he telleth them therfore
The Bow of their Batle ſhalbe broke, and God will then reſtore
Peace to the heathen folke on earth, which had vnquyet reſt.
And ſo where warres did worke much wo, Gods peace ſhal make them (bleſt
But when he ſpeakes of Iudaes bliſſe, enlarged, he doth ſhow,
That God his choſen Iuda hath bent out euen as a Bowe.
In raiſing vp of Syons ſonnes, O Grecia, then ſaith he:
Beholde euen as a Gyants ſworde, ſo ſtrong I haue made thee.
Nehemyas choſen of the Lorde Ieruſalems walle to builde,
By Sanballat, Tobyas, and the Arabians then withhyld
Was hindered much, yet with th'one half of Iudaes yong men there,
And with th'other half, which helde, the Bow, the ſhield and ſpeare,
With manly courage Reard, it was the walle and proſperous ſtod,
The Rulers ſaw the ſame with ioy maugre th'enemies mod.
Eſdras prophecying (againſt Aſia and Babilon,
Egipt, Syria, and of eche grauous affliction,

Lamentat. Chap. 11. verſ. 12. & 13

Ezech. Chap. 39.

Oſe. 1.

Zacha. 9. Verſ. 10.

Verſ. 11.

Nehem. Chap. 4. verſ. 16.

Eſdras, Chap. 9.

Which vppon all the worlde shal comme by Goddesd ecrēd iudgement
Saith, Strong is his right hande by whome his Bow shall so bee bent,
His arrowes which hee shoots, are sharp and shall not misse, he saies,
When they begin for to bee shot into the latter dayes.
Iudith a worthie Widow was, and handmayde of the Lorde
Iudith.12. Which prayde to God in her distresse, and walked in his worde
What tyme that Tyrant proude assailde Nabuchadnezer hée
With Olophernes his Chæftaine, and all their huge army
To come against Gods Israell, Twelue thousand Archers stoute,
And fiftescore thousand others mo of that his Rakehell Rowte,
Beholde God heard this woman weike, when she for hers so praide:
Thy power Oh God in multitude consisteth not, she saide,
Nor thy might in stronge men remaines; But thou the hope onely,
Of humble myndes deffendst wayklyngs and which forsaken bee,
Those thou protectst. Her prayer so did please the lyuing Lorde
As by his might this woman weyke could vse the pearsing sworde
That shée cut of the Captaines head, so mightie in mischæf,
His members quayld, Gods will prenaild, and hers found ioy for grēt.
Iudas Machabeus, he, the first which bare that name,
1.Mac.9. One of the Worthies nyne so cald deserues immortall fame
For valiantly encountering with Demetrius and his hoast,
Whose Archers marching in forwarde, for all their heathnish boast.
Iudas in the Lordes quarrell, yet his Brethren dyd comfort,
Though there he lost his life in fælde the same for to support,
Reuel.6. Iohn the deuyne Reuailes to all those that true Christians bée,
Firme consolation in distresse by Christe our Lorde saith he,
Beholde a white Horse, and he which vppon the same doth sit,
A bow had ready drawne in hand: A Crowne and giuen him fit,
And hee should go forth conquering, and ouercome eche wheare,
This Christe our King doth signify, which such a rule shall beare,
Through out the worlde, that hée shall shoote the shafts of his gospell,
To saue for euer his elect, conquering sinne, death and hell.

THE SECOND ASSERTION and ys Prophane Hystoricall.

PASSon my penne from Pristine soyle of sacred Parnasse mount,
And raunge the Rurall prophane fældes to shew of what account.
The Bow and Shaft haue bēne to fore in learned Writers dayes:

Let

Let Claudianus first infer thereof his frendly praise:
Hee saith that Nature first of all the vse of Shooting gaue,
In the Porpentyne, that beast, who seemes sharp prickes to haue,
Which strongly smyte what so they hit: whereby some learned men
In finding this did imitate with Bowes and shafts as then.
Pliny referres to Scythes, this, the Sonne of Iupiter.
Plato, Chalimachus and Galen more Noble writers ferr
Affirme Apollo, paterne chief and Patrone first to bee,
Of Shooting in the AEthnickes dayes: as they in one agree.
So Ouid iumpes with their accord, wen lo in that his fable, Lib. 1. Metamor.
Hee telles how th'earth brought Python forth a serpent admirable
What tyme the Delyan God which neuer vse before that drift,
Th'art of Shooting, but at Deare and Roes which ronne so swift:
A thousand shaftes dyd spend vppon that vgly monster theare,
And none of them but forst the bloud to issew out of her.
So that his quyuer almost voyde, he naild her to the grounde,
And dyd her nobly at the last by shooting sharp confounde:
Wherfore that he more famous might make this his enterprise,
A great and solempne game he dyd thencforth himself deuyse
Which of the Serpent slaine the name of Pythians spoyts did beare,
Who for mastry in feats of force should oken garland weare.
Moreouer, Ouid doth declare Apollo, after that Lib. eodem.
With Cupid (for his Archery) the god of loue did chat:
And seemed to chyde him as a childe with martiall might to mell
Thy bowe and shafts more meete (saith he) are with me for to dwell,
But Cupid thought this vncouth speech, and to contend with him
Did nothing bash (at beast saith he) I graunt that bow of thyne
Thou freely vse: And so at thee his shafts shall spend my Bowe,
And loke how much inferiour is eche beast to God, so knowe
And holde for truth, that euen so much thy glory lesse shall bee
In shootings noble exercyse, then myne is in degree:
Apollo afterwardes approued these Cupides words most trewe
When he was wounded with his shafte as sequell did ensewe
When hee, which God of phisicks arte and surgery was calde,
Could make no medicyn for releef of himself so enthralde,
In Daphnes loue: who for because a Virgin shee would bee,
He proffering kisses swete in vaine, the Goddes then prayed shee,
Th'earth might rather her deuoure all quick euen as she was.

Then yælde vnto Apolloes loue: But sæ the altered case,
Well saith this God, sith thou my loue thus scornefull dost abuse,
Into my Tree thou changd shalt be, and thæ Ile alwaies vse
Thou shalt adorne my golden lokes, and eke my pleasant harp.
Thou shalt adorne my Quyuer full of arrowes kæne and sharp.
The valiant Knights and Emperours thou shalt adorne also.
Before the Capitoll eke stand, with triumphes stately show
For Conquerours and victors such, as valiant acts haue done,
Before Augustus Pallaice dore, as braue as is the sunne.

This Poët eke full conningly in couert wise doth shewe,
Examples vertues to embrace, and vyces to eschewe.
As where he doth on fained Goddes and Goddesses there treat,
Sometimes he toucheth their reuenge, for crimes and vyces great.
Like, as when Ioue had companie of the Nymphe Parhâsis,
Lib. 2. Metamor. A Knight of Phœbus troupe, which bare, a bowe sometyme ywis,
She drawyng neare a certaine wood vnbending there her bowe,
Layde her quyuer vnder her head, and coucht her selfe a low,
Sone Iupiter spyed her and, with her stroue for some play,
(In'haste her quyuer almost forgot) as then she fled away.
Whome when Dyana so discryde, as she was following deare,
By Iunoes iustice was transformd into an vggly Beare.

Eodem. Phebus hearing that his loue Coronis, on a time.
The fairest Nymphe in Thessaly, with one Isthis had lyne.
A Gentleman although he were, Phebus this brookt not well.
But threw his garland from his head, his harp toth'ground eke fell.
His colour changed his fury flamed, his bow and shafts he takes,
To slay the Mother and the Childe, all meane and might he makes.

Lib. 3. Metamor. Phebe or Diana she, the Goddesse of hunting game.
To bath her selfe in Cristall streame a wearied once came,
And being (with her troupe of Nymphes about her) in the dæpe.
Her bowe and quyuer did betake to one of them to kæpe,
With that comes Cadmus nephew by, a huntsman euen that way,
Whome wanderingly (whiles to beholde this Goddesse) he did stay,
She cast an angry loke on him, as though she would haue shot,
A shafte at him, had her bow bæne bent, as she had it not.
Yet Pathles water sprinckling she, his face, and head vppon
A paire of olde Hartes hornes, his head had growyng vp anon,
By which this metamorphose he, who was a Pan of late,

And

And Huntſman two, to beaſt is like, whome his owne hounds did hate
So that of them he chaſed was vp hill and downe the dale,
Who after thoſe his houndes before, did hallow lowd and hale:
With turne, and returne, ſkip and ſkud, they followe him as their pray,
Whoſe folly cauſd his fate ſo yll with finall death that day.

Salmaſis Dianas nymph (but water fairy) went — Lib. 4. Metamor.
Oft times vnto a certaine pole, to hunt was her intent:
Yet ſhe with loue of Mercuries ſonne ſurpriſde, in pleaſures paſt
Her youthfull yeares: (vnknowen to Phœbe) her ſiſters at the laſt
Would oft perſwade her painefull life, which profit might procure,
Her idle time in caſting dart, or ſhoting to enure.
But ſhe neglecting their aduiſe a wanton ſtill would be,
And ſtriue with him her louer ſo, vntill both he and ſhe
Were chaunged from their former ſhape, one monſter made, and were
An Hermaphrodite which both man and woman did appeare.

Alpheys (a Riuer cald) deſcribed her race of auncient Loue, — Lib. 15.
Which would not leaue her, till ſhe cride vnto Diana aboue,
Helpe Lady deare: for I thy true and truſtie ſquyer (ſaith ſhe)
Which haue thy Bow and arrowes oft times carried after thée,
Am now attacht of Cupids Knight, preſerue my Virgins ſtate:
Therewith the Goddeſſe béeing mooued, a cloude did diſſipate,
And couer ſo her Nymphe therewith, that ſhe in ſafetie was.
Her Louer fruſtrate of his will, away from her did paſſe.

Ceypheys Lordes within his Court a while at quiet were, — Lib eodem Metamor.
But when a ſodaine rumour they (I wot neare what) did heare,
Ceyphey affirmed himſelfe to be no occaſioner of the ſame,
One Atis nimble with the dart, but which did better frame
In handlyng Bowe and ſhaft, forthwith at Perſey gan to bend,
Whom Pallas ſhrouded with her ſhield, and did from harme defend.
Then Perſey toke a fierbrand and daſht in Atis face,
Bébattering him about therewith that ſlaine outright he was:
Whoſe death Lycab of Aſſur Land reuengd with Atis Bowe,
And with his ſhaftes, that Perſey then quite dead he laide alowe.
Of diſcord and diſſention here loe thus they rewed the end,
With miſchiefe they are ouermacht which miſchiefe doe pretend.
And though the partie which begins, when he hath miſchiefe done
Hath his perfaker euill, yet God his wrath can no man ſhone:

But what the guyltlesse want in power, the same performe God will,
And take their quarrell as his owne, the Killers for to kill.
Phebus bright and Mayas sonne (saith Ouid) both tyme when
Mercator. Came th'one from Delphos, and th'other from the mount Cyllen.
Apollo Phebus yet so close could step to Chyon, where
He pleasure take which was forspoke by Mercury his Compere
Which Chyon in Appolloes cares displaying Dame Dyane,
Herselfe vnto hym to preferre, it so to passe then came.
Phebe offended therwithall, her venging Bow streight bent
And shot her through the toung as for her worthie punishment:
Of Ouid I omit here more, as touching tales to write,
And now to other Writers passe of Archery which recyte.

Apollo, Chéefest of Archers was by Poets dome enstalde
Whome they the Bearer of the Bow and mighty Shoter calde,
Whereupon Claudianus saith.
Mars Clipeo melior, Phebus prestantior arcu: In English. viz. (passe.
Mars with ỹ Buckler better was: But Apollo him with the Bow did
And Valerius Flaccus: saith.
Arcupotens aduerte precor nunc denique Apollo.
Apollo mighty Archer how: Turne thée I pray thée to mée now.
Hyppochoon, Mnestion, and Eurytion all thrée
Were Archers, which (as Virgill saith) contended valiantly,
Euen for the garland all at ones, when passymes funerall
Virgill. By AEnéas were celebrate for his Father naturall,
Namley Anchyses: when AEney forsaking Affrica,
And sayling so through Italy, came into Silicia.
Eke Coryney of Italy (saith Virgill) shot full well,
But Asyla the Troyan dyd in shoting farre excell.
Acastus, hée the Hunter was, an Archer tall and good,
Who went with Meleager for to kill the Boze in wood.
Which spoylde the Cuntry Caledon (of whome Ouid pardy
Saith) fierce Leucippus, and Acast with shafts so Noble hée.
Parys an Archer strong so was, that hée did ouerthrowe
Virgill. Achilles with one shaft onely and wounded him also.
Ouid in Epistell. The same Paris is of himself so said to make good proof,
His shaft was not more to be feard, then when she slew alof.
Ouid. lib. 12. Lycota conning Archer, was more conningly cast downe

Mopsus

Mopſus of Crete for ſhotings ſkill of Silius hath renowne — Sil. Ital.
Ilerdes ſuch an Archer was whoſe ſhaft ſo ſurely aymed, — Sil. Ital.
That Birdes hye houering in the ayer, he killed more then maymed,
Ne was hée onely warryer ſtout, but huntſman ſkilfull ſo
In euery courſe that hée could kill the hynde, the bucke or doe.
Alcon an Archer was of Crete, whoſe child a Dragon fell — Vale. Flac. Lib 1. Argo.
Perforce had caught away from him: at which hée did leuell,
His ſhafts with ſuch deliuery ſure, that hée the Dragon ſlew,
His childe harmeleſſe and from that beaſt did manfully reſkew.
Enarus, was an Archer ſo endewed with ſtrength and art, — Saxo Grammaticus.
Hée bent his Bowe with ſuch a force, nought could his ſhot reuert.
Deucaleon, Hypereſeus Sonne, by Hypſo the Nymphe was
An Archer which in ſhoting farre did others much ſurpaſſe. — Vale. Flac. Lib. 1. Argo.
AEthalides an Orator was, which for his eloquent tongue — Lib. 1 Arg.
Men dyd beléeue of Mercury, hée was the onely ſonne,
And that this Man in Archery had fortune ioyned with fame,
Valerius Flaccus in his booke doth verify the ſame.
Catenos, hée a Souldiour did his ſhaft ſo ſurely leuell. — Quint. Cur. Lib. 6. de geſt Alexander.
That birdes hye mounting in the ſkye hée downe ſtarck dead could fel.
Toco a certen Souldiour was an Archer of ſuch ſkill, — Saxo. gram.
Although in Cuppes his tongue could walke more voyd of wit thē wil,
That hée at banquets oft would boaſt an apple very ſmall
A farre of held he ſech of could euen his firſt ſhaft withall.
Aſpares one inhabitant in Garamantia Lande, — Pontanus.
By fyne delinering of his ſhafts, is praiſde for eye and hand.
Euritus, King of Ochaly, and Father of Ioles, — Idem.
The art of ſhoting taught vnto the valiant Hercules.

Hercules, a Shoter ſuch did ſhew himſelfe to bée
So ſtrong in ſtroke, ſo ſure ſure in ayme, ſo certen with the eye, — Pontanus
Hée Centaur Neſſus ouerthrew though from him farre hée ſtood:
And of the hartes (as ſwifte as winde) hée bathde his ſhafts in blood,
Beſides theſe hée the Harpyas (a Rauenous byrde by kinde)
Could cauſe to tumble out of the ayer, as fethers toſt with winde.
Comodus the Emperour, Sonne of Marck and Fauſtine, was — Herodia. Lib. 1.
So ſure a Shoter countpted, that when beaſts aloft did paſſe,
Or ſwiftly ronne he neuer miſt, but one or other ſure,
He ſlew with ſhafte, and none eſcapte nor could his ſtroke endure:

But what his eye once destined had if so hée might yt sée,
The same was sure with Bow and shaft his prayed pray to bée.
ex. Aurel. Domitian the Emperour hée in shooting so excelld,
That now and then a childe which forth his fingers strecched held,
Ye made his marcke twirt fingers twaine aloft held vp and wyde:
The Childe vnharmed was, and eke his shafts did surely glyde.
Againe two honderth beastes hée did with arrowes kill most sharp,
Tranquil. Some of their heads two shafts had like the hornes of a wilde hart.
Eight Contreyes, Geta, Scithia, and with them the Ithurians,
The Parsij, Parthi, Sarmati, Cretii, Arimaspyans,
And almoste all the Countreyes of the worlde towardes the east
Were noted much in archery to haue their skill encreast.
And these by seuerall Epithets had seuerall properties,
Eche one his owne pertaining to this shootings exercyse,
The Poets terme the Ithuryan Bowe: the Parthyans shafts they name:
Sabellicus in Oraculo. The Getian string, and Muyuers eke were attributc by fame
Unto them of Sarmatia, and so semblably ensewed
In all the other Contreyes their owne propertyes renewed.
And though in shooting eche of these skilfull and practized were,
The Parthyans yet and Persians cheef prick and praise did beare:
So excellent Archers were they deemed, that as they ranne the way,
They shot behinde them, that therwith their Enemies they could slaye:
And turning euen from them they could so hurt them which pursewed,
As if with wachfull eyes they had euen face to face them bewed.
Lucanus. Whereof Lucane the Poet thus mencyoneth.
Ocyor & missa Parthi post terga sagitta: That is in English.
More swifter then Parthyan shaft so quick: behind their backe which is
Herodian in Clio. Cyaxares King of the Medes, which great Grandfather was (let slip
To Cyrus, kept of Scythians, (which did with Bowe surpas)
A sorte of shooters for the nonce, euen to enstruct and teache
His Sonne Astyages, that arte most skilfully to reache.
Cyrus a Childe, in this arte was so deligent educate,
Xenophon in institut. Cyri. That Xenophon who writ the same, would neuer haue nominate
The vse and proffit greatly so with Princely state to grée.
Had not nature experience and effect enforst to bée,
As Tully saith most congruent, not onely for to showe
What Cyrus did, but what a Prince by dewty ought to dw,
Both in pastimes for pleasure, and in seryous matters when

The

The same may profyt Prince, himself and also other men.
Darius King of Persia, the first that name which bare,
Dyd shew how fit a thing it ought to bée, and nothing rare
A PRINCE to practize Archery, as for the same pretence
Hée left for worthy memory on his tombe this sentence.

DARIVS the King lyeth buried heare,
Which in shooting & ryding had neuer his peare.

Strabo. Lib. 15.

Theodosius the Emperour had commendations Dew,
Giuen him by Themistius his Philosopher trewe,
For thrée things which hée of a Childe did vse especially,
As Shooting, Ryding well on Horse, and feats of Cheualry.

Themist. in Orat. 6.

Cyrus what time hée conquered in manner all the world,
Among his Persians made this Lawe, and left it sure enrould,
Their Children should from fiue yeares age vntill the yeare twenty
Learne thrée things well, To ryde, To shoot, Tell truth and neuer lye.

Herodianus in Clio.

Leo the Noble Emperour did full Christianly ordaine
A Law, eche man in time of peace should shooting so mentaine:
Till hée were xl. yeares of age, and that eche house priuate
Should haue a Bowe and xl. shafts in order like and rate,
Ready for eche vse of néede: The omitting of which Lawe
(Saith Leo) among the youth, hath béene th'effycient ouerthrawe
Of Romane glory erst so braue, with losse of a great deale
Of th'Empire selfe, and hynderance of our florishing publike weale.

Leo de Stratagem. 20.

AEthiopians of the world the furdest Southward are,
Whose excellency in shooting, that same history doth declare
When to their King, Cambyses King of Persia once did sende
Ambassadours with many gifts: Their subtill drifte and ende
Th'ethiopian King discust to prowe them very spyes,
And blamed their King Cambyses for such vniust enterpryse:
But princely intertaining them, a Bowe he tokr (which bent
And drawne by him vnbent againe) vnto their King hæ sent
The same with gréting (and saith hæ) deliuer it him from mæ,
And say when any Persian can shot in the same that hæ,
Then set on AEthyopians, but in meane time let him yelde
Thankes vnto God, that hath not giuen the Persians force in fælde
To conquer other mens Contreyes. The bowe when as it came
Among them, none at all was found which once could stirr the same:

Herodo. in Thalia.

Haue onely Smerdis Brother to Cambyſes who, the ſtring
Two fingers ſtyed, and furder could not, for the which doing,
Cambyſes him ſo ſore enuyed, as doth the ſtory ſay,
That his owne Brother Smerdis hée therfore outright did ſlay.

Herodot. in Euterp. Seſoſtris, the moſt mighty king that Ruled AEgipt Lande,
Ouercame a great part of the worlde, and that by Archers band
The Arabyans, Iewes, and Syrians hée brought in ſubiection,
And further into Scithia went, then eſſe did any one:
Hée ouercame eke Thracya till the Coaſtes of Germany,
In token wheare of euery ſuch obtained victory,
Images hée dyd erect after his owne likenes
In th'one hand Bow, in th'other ſhaft holding for to witneſſe,
What weapons in his conqueſt, hée did vſe in thoſe his dayes,
Whereby he gained glory condigne, and eke a laſting praiſe.

Diod, Sic. Tewcer amongſt the Græcians for his ſhoting bare the bell
Who (when Hector the Græcyans ſhips by fire thought to quell:)
With his Bow droue them backe agen: Neither could noble Troy
Haue bene deſtroyd by Græcyans, if with ſhotings dire anoy
Of Hercules ſhaftes, it had not bene aſſaulted as it was,
Whereby the ruyn of the ſame the ſoner came to paſſe.

THE THIRDE ASSERTION
Engliſhe Hyſtoricall.

RElinquiſhing thoſe prophane feates and fautors, now my penne
Approche the proweſſe and the praiſe of natiue Elgliſhmen:
From Brute the Troyans time, who as hée vſed ſhoting theare
When vnwares he his Father ſlew, in foreſt hunting deare.

Anno ante Chriſt. 1108 After hée had by that miſchaunce his Syluius deare bereft,
Aryued in this our Albyon then his natiue Troy ſo left.
The Brytons his ſucceſſors ruled this Lande, till Cæſar hée
Conquerd the ſame, not long before Chriſtes natiuity.

The Romans continewed. 483. yeares The Romanes held the Brittaines in their rule and tribute long,
Agricola a Capteyn (ſent the Romanes from among)
With ſhot of arrowes and of darts did greeue the Brittons much
They with huge ſwords and bucklers ſmal eke kept the Romans tuch.

Poſt Chriſtum. 490. Hengiſt a Saxon hether came, in kent whoſe Kingdome was.
And warrd vppon the Brytons till he lyued in quyet caſe

AR.

ARTHVRE the mirrour of manhood, and Champion of Cheualrie. Anno post.
Subdewed the Saxons to him tho, with many a victorie Xpū.518.
Among the Brittons after his time, west Saxons still bare sway,
Aelfird, a Godly learned King a Saxon, stories saye 872.
By cruell pursute of the Danes which troubled then this Land,
Dyd wander with his Bow and shafts their force and did withstand:
For God not onely victor him full many a time did make
Ouer the Paganes, but by him enforst their force to slake.
Harolde the Dane vsurpt and toke on him to raigne as king,
Untill the tyme of Willyam Duke of Normandies coming:
Whose powers together béeing met Haroldes was ouermatcht,
And hée (a shaft shot into his head) at once was so dispacht.
Willyam the Duke had conquerd there this Land & ruled the same, An. a xpō. nato. 1066. 1. W. 1.
But not in bondage would shée lyue thoug he her ouercame
It's worth the reading therfore heare to shew how Stigand then Archb. and Abot of Cantirbury
Archbishop, and how Egelstyn that Abbot playde the men:
For frædome of their Countrey, thus therfore they did deuise,
A power of Horsemen and fotemen should for time erercyse
Alongst their fældes as't were lanelike long boughes & large to beare,
To make the Duke should thether come, when hée therof did heare.
And as they said it hapned so, the Duke came with his traine,
Who séing this thought it had bene euen mowing trés certaine:
Whereto approching with meane space (discomfited in minde)
Hée pawsd, the Kentish power a far did smell him in the winde.
Who (when within their army him enclosed got they had) (glad.
Down cast their boughs vp bent their Bowes their shafts to shot most
The trompets sound, their Banners waue, their weapōs busied were,
To feight with whome they so desyrde in Countryes quarrel there.
So hée, who thought he had in his fist the whole land late so fast,
Began his life now to despaire, affrighted and agast:
Then they oracion frendly framed, condicions graunt hée should,
Their wonted frædome that they might in certaine order holde:
Hée thereto grées, confirmes the graunt by pledge sufficyent so,
That by this meanes those liberties continwed hetherto.
Willyam Rufus was his sonne, who ruled not so well, Anno 1100
As that men could not wæpe for ioy of his death to heare tell, 13. W. 2.
To his owne subiectes wicked hé and so to strangers was:
But most wicked vnto himselfe when Gods will taking place

In Hamshyer that new forrest, as hée hunted on a time,
A Knight in shoting at a Deare gaue him his fatall fine.
But now of Noble Princes I will penne the noble praise,
Euen such as worthie Archery mentained in their dayes.

Anno.1105. Henry the First of England King, fought many a battell strong
Anno. 1119. & 1128. Agenst the French with Archers stout, his other powers among:
6.10.& 29. of H.1. A victor eke hée still prevaild in warres: and in peace tyme,
His People vnto shoting did them selues greatly enclyne.

Stephen, King of England stoutly dyd with Archers in his bande
Anno. 1139. 4.St.1. As also by his other powers the Scottish broylles withstand:
He made warres eke genst Robert then the Earle of Glocester
Who did inuade his Kingdome with ten knights and in nomber
Of Archers iust so many, which on horseback passed through
The midst of all the Realme, but yet resisted well enough.

Anno.1171. 17 H 2. Henry the second valyantly aduentured Irelands soyle
With warlike power, some Archers were, with labour small and toyle
The Archbishops and Bishops did receiue him for their King,
And hée them ruled like worthie prince in love and peace tendring.

Richard Cœur de Lyon cald a king and Conquerour was,
Anno. 1191. 2.Ric 1. With Phillip king of France, who did vnto Ierusalem passe:
Olde Chronicles report, his power had Archers them among,
Whose force confounded Pagans fell and layde them dead along.
In this Kings time was Robyn Hood: that Archer and outlawe,
And litle Iohn his partener eke, vnto them which did drawe
One hondred tall and good Archers, on whome foure hondred men
Were their power neuer so strong could not giue onset then:
The Abbots Monkes and Carles rich, these onely did molest
And reskewd woemen when they saw of théues them so oppress,
Restoring poore mens goods, and eke aboundantly releéued
Poore Trauellers which wanted food, or were with sicknes gréeued.

And, heare because of Archery I do by penne explane
The vse, the profFet, and the praise, to England by the same,
(1553.) (7.E.6.) My self remembreth of a childe in Contreye native mine:
A May game was of Robyn-hood and of his traine that time
To traine vp young men, stripplingsand, eche other younger childe
In shoting, yearely this with solempne feast was by the Guylde,
Or Brother hood of Townsmen done, with sport, with ioy, and loue
To profFet which in present tyme, and afterward did proue.

Iohn

John King, subdewed Ireland with manly force and might 1210.
Of Horsemen, Archers, speares, and such as put their foes to flight.
Edward the second that valyant Prince, when Scotland hee receewed, 1513.
From them, whose force his Father had not long before subdewed, 7.E.2.
In his hoste for his second ward had Archers and footmen, Scotland.
But many of the Enemies were slaine by Archers then.
Edward that victorious King the thirde so cald by name, Anno 1540
When his noble Nauy against the French Kings navy came, The Batle
Hee had the winde most wishfully and sonne so at his back, on the Sea.
His purpose and his enterprise that hee no time did slack: 13.E.3.
A shower of English arrowes sharp from long bowes powered downe,
Vppon the Frenchmen, whereby fell to our men great renowme,
When at that Bickering Frenchmen there to leaue their ships were
And leape into the seayes for want of landing place certaine. (faine,
Therles of Northampton, and of Oxeford fought also, 1544.
With Charles Duke of Brittayne, as the Chronicles do shoe: 17.E.4.
At Morleys where oure men of armes, and Archers valyant might Batle at
Subdewed that Contrey, foilde their foes, and wan that field outright. Morles.
That yeare the King the noble Earle of Darby eke did send, Gascoyne.
Newly create first King of Man, with an army to thend Anno.dicit.
Hee Gascoyne by strong power might win, which hee w̄ great goodwill,
And Archers ayde, (as God would giue him leaue) did so fulfull:
For many a walled Towne hee theare and castle also wonne,
With skermishes which made his foes to flée away and ronne,
So that hee dubbed there .50. Knights as Chronicles declare,
And to his King with honour dewe did homewards then repare.
The noble King in person came against the French at length,
And made the English Dragon mount in fielde with force and strength: Cressy.
When Olesiam that Frenchmen bare, went flittering to and fro,
Which ayded was at Cressy fielde by other Kings twaine mo,
Of Boheme and of Malogres: their men innumerable,
The English fifténe hondreth scarse nothing like comparable.
K. Edward hee corageously endured from nonne to night,
The English Archers did their best with arrowes long and light.
Their Footemen (being plast among their Horsemen grieued and gald,
With Archers girdes) were troden downe and so sore ouerhalde,
That great and grieuous was their crye, but greater was the showte,
Which in pursute our Shooters gaue th'enmies hoast throughout:

Their aray was broke, they scattered were, and by our armed men
Were many of them beaten downe, the rest did flee as then.
Anno. dict. Dyrham. And see, about that present time, the Scots with power inuade
This Realme as farre as Dyrham come, with weapon and with blade:
Th'archbishop of Yorke and States there left as then which were,
With the Archers tall a nomber good and stout of Lankashier
Encountring with the King of Scots and all his bosse, in fine,
Dauid their King sore wounded was with shafts that present time.
A nomber of his chief Lordes and Knights were taken there captiues,
Of common Souldiours most parte slaine, a few fled with their lyues.
Anno. 1349. K. Edward yet did vnderstand Calys betrayed should bee,
14. E4. Hee therefore as a valyant Prince gathered an Army,
Of horse and man, of billes and bowes, of speares and swordes also,
Embarcked in an Nauy meete, and Calys comes hee to:
Callys. About their Kingly Conquerour this English Army clings,
As who (nert God) would cleaue to him aboue all earthly things,
Hee with a Kingly courage doth likewise vnto them call,
Hee placeth them in Batle ray and princely cheares them all.
But specially to his Archers which, stood on the billes there drye
Doo well yee Archers play the men, and know (saith hee) that I
Am EDWARD of Windsore: herewith, thẽselues they did prepare,
To set vppon their Enemies, no force nor might they spare.
The shafts from billes so hye sent downe into the valleys lowe,
Did wash the Frenchmen euery wheare like mighty flakes of snow,
But such a washing as that was with woundes and wofull plight,
They seldome saw, which with the same were foyld and slaine outright.
God giuing him this victory, the King doth order take,
For all things meete, and his returne to England streight dothe make:
Wheare hee the first Feast did ordaine of S. George the Marter,
And made the First most noble Knights of thorder of the Garter.
After this yet euen that yeare the Spainyards did beset
Winchelsey. The Brittaine Sea, with Forty and foure Ships like Castles great:
The. 2. Batle on the Sea. The King againe 50. great Ships with Pynnaces preparde,
Nere like vnto small Cotages. Hee then and Prince Edward
His Sonne with Nobles Knights and Squiers, and their retenue smal,
Amongst whome (lo the Archers were not least nor worst of all)
Embarckt them selues & Crosse the Seays till such time as they meete
With their prouoking Enemies, I meane the Spanish fleete:

To bickering and then they fell on both sides for best game,
Twentie and seuen Spanish shippes by night did flie with shame,
Which left Seauentæne for English spoyle, and prise the eeuen before,
The Realme fared better by the same against their wils full sore.
Edward the Blacke Prince so syrnamed King Edward the 3. his son, Anno. 1356.
(Who lately with the Spanyards fought) as Generall now is come, 29. Eliz.
With men of Armes foure thousand, and one thousand soldiours such,
As Armour bare, of Archers eke, two thousand which kept tuch, 30. E. 3.
Under conduct of Earles three, of Oxford, Salisbury,
And Suffolke, which to mæte the king of Fraunce did make them redy:
By Poytiers Towne, in pitched field the Prince himselfe doth take, Poyters.
Thée charge vpon himselfe, And doth a graue oration make Looke at large in Iohn Stowes. Chronicle.
To his Soldiours all, but specially, his Archers worthines
He doth extoll, from time to time, Exhorting them no lesse,
To hold on their fidelitie and prooued Prowesse still,
Which they did sæme most dutifull at that time to fulfill:
When they so fast their arrowes shot vpon the French that day,
Their quiuers emptied were apace, then catch that can or may,
From euery wounded corps a shaft, in haste and it bestowed,
Vpon another where he could, to pay the debt he owed.
Thus passed they the time with toyle, when all their shafts were spent,
To lay on load with Sword and Bill, to hand strokes fast they went,
The French King and his sonne they take, and almost all his peares,
And Thirtie thousand slew besides in those their warlike feares.
Prince Edward (God thus gining him a valiant victorie,)
Returneth to his Father streight, and with him his armie.
Richard the second in his time (the Scots inuading so 1385.
His land, so far as Warck Castle) to stoppe his faithlesse foe, 8. R. 2.
Who now had brent within his land, his promisse likewise broke, Warck Castle.
Against him sent a chosen power, to giue him battell stroke.
Th'Earle of Buckingam did leade a thousand Launses tall,
Two Thousand Archers, made his hoste, most faithfull and loyall,
But when they came into the field of th'enemeis to haue fight:
They neuer shewed their faces, nor once signe that they would fight.
Wherefore the Earle with his power pursued them homewards then,
Burning their Countrey as he could, and so made hither againe.
Againe the King to Scotland ward his power did addresse, Anno. 1385.
Of Knights, of Squiers, and Archers stoute, whose number to expresse, 8. R. 2.

The like not heard of in those dayes, which enterd Scotland Roade:
Scotland. Who thither come, their Enemies fled their sight and not aboade.
The King and all his states holding a Parlement as then,
1369. At Westminster a stur began, through Criminall causes, when
18. R. 2. Four thousand of the Kings Archers (the parliament about)
Westminst. Encompassed, as though some euill were worcking in the rowte:
Their Bowes were bent, and they ready the same for to withstand,
But that the King in person was euen presently at hand.
Which did appease the stur suppose that afterward would fall,
So all was hwisht, and euery man went well apaide withall.
The king in Person went with power ouer into Ireland
1399. To Diblyn, where he being come did streightway understand,
21. Ric. 2. His common Enemy Mack more so sauage fierce and fell,
Ireland. Against all dewty did resist, and others made rebell:
His grace thought mete to make out then the Earle of Glocester,
With Launces tall two hondreth and 2000 Archers thether:
The Enemy and all his power to bring vnder his hande.
For I will haue him, (saith the king,) or els out of this Lande
A liue hence will I neuer go. The Chronicles at large
Declare what therof did ensew in that enioyned charge.
1402. Henry the 4. of England King, a certen power sent forth.
3. H. 4. The Earle of Northumberland, and others in the North,
Scotland. With armed men and Archers tall appointed all aright,
Who with the Scots their army and their Archers eke should feght.
Our Archers with theirs changd no ground, and both did manly well:
(So as the nobles and the rest on both partes truth to tell,
While they did stand as lokers on) our English Archery
Slew many a Scot and toke the flower of all their Cheualry:
Anno. 1315. Henry the 5. that pereles Prince and Conquerour puisant
2. H 5. Against the French at Agincourt about him attendant
Had but 7000 feighting men, and many of them sick,
Yet most of them a yeard in length their shaftes there drew to prick,
Euen all the Cheualry in france, and downeright so them slew,
26. persons. Which 40000 coumpted were: Of oure Men slaine but few.
To Troys in Campaine Championlike this King with army came
An 1420. Of 16000 Souldiours, and the most part of the same
7. H. 5. Were English Archers, which behaued them with the rest so well,
And valyant, that the victory vnto the king then fell.

Richard

Richard the thirde and Henry Earle of Richmond met in fæld — Anno.1485.
At Bosworth where both parties were strong with horse, sword, bow, &
Richard, two forwings had, in midst of whome his Archers were (shæld — 2.R.3.
Th'Earle 2. wings of horsmen had and Archers few, did bere
Themselues eche vnto others so, that after long felle fight
The King was slaine, and to the Earle the victory did light:
Who there was Crowned King in fæld, as God him grace did giue,
Not suffering Tyrants longer then hee thinkes good heare to liue.

K. Henry the 7. that noble Prince (the Earle of Richmond yore, — Anno.1490
Sent Sir Humfrey Talbot but, with Archers iust threschore — 5 H7.
To Newports sæge in Flaunders soyle: these Archers euery one
An arrowe shot which made the flemings groueling for to grone:
So, that 8000 of them slaine by shafts and gonne shot were,
Of Englishmen in all the hoast, and not one hondreth theare.

At Black heath fælde the King his power with Cornish rebells met, — Anno.1497.
Whose Archers drawing a clothyeards length of force were very gret: — 12 H.7.
But greater was the power of God (assistant with the King,
His Army, and his Archers eke,) those Rebells conquering:
Of whome 2000 slaine there was, and infinite captiues,
Which had (their guerdon dew to such) the losse of all their liues.

Henry the 8. that mighty Prince and mirour of Maiesty — Anno.1511.
Ayded the Douches of Sauoy with power of Archery, — 3 H 8.
Fiftæne hondreth tall good men men, genst Duke of Gelderland
Which did full great good Seruice there her Enemies to withstand
Sir Edward Poynings did conduct this Army to and fro.
Of whome the Chronicles much fame and valyancy do sho.

This mighty Prince did, also ayde the King of Arragon
Agenst French power where as I read our Archers many one — Anno 1522.
Of the French Horsemen galled so, that foundring, downe they fell, — 4 H 8.
And chasing their fotemen also, slew many, as stories tell.

K. Henries Ship, the Regent cald with Carik French grapling, — Anno. dict.
Our Archers geanst French-crosbowes shot & held them such tacklyng:
So as in fine the Englishmen the Carick layde aboarde,
Where vnto them the pryze and pray the Lorde God did affoard.

Arde and Gwynes, and Turwyn tw with Turney testified — Anno 1513.
Our Archers force, which freshly shot, as then was veryfied: — 5 H 8.
King Henry in his Campe at Arkes. by Culpepers Conduct — Turwyn & Turney.
Did cause 200 Archers stout to bee at full instruct,

Anno.dict. Under the Banner of S.George to ſſiew manly owte,
Which ſet ſo fercely on the French and flew ſo through the rowte,
That (they forthwith diſcomfited) twice twelue of them were ſlaine,
And Twelue ſcore taken priſoners were, not ſmall yet was the gaine
Dure Engliſh got, when as the braſon ordeinance and falde peeces,
Before time loſt they wan againe, with botyes ſpoyle and fleeces.

Anno.1513. Whiles the King in France was on this manner buſied theare,
5 H 8. The Scottiſh King began as faſt his broyles in England heare:
Floddon Feelde. Genſt whome the noble Norffolke Duke with Northren noble harts
Of Archers Cheſhyer, Lankaſhyer, and others playd their partes
Euen brant againſt that Flodden-hill ſo ſwift their arrowes flew,
K. Ieamy and many a noble Scot wherby they downeright flew. (pike
Two Knights I read wanne worthy praiſe in France, at the Turne
Neare Hames, with xvi. Archers and no mo which put to flight
Anno.1520. 12.H8. So many Frenchmen as then fled: Both Engliſh Knights theſe were,
Sir William Walgraue and Sir George that Somerſets name did bere
Theſe turned ſo many owte of their Jacks at Turnepike nere to Hame
All France it turned to reproch and, them to perpetuall fame.

Anno dict. Among that thouſand Souldiours which the Cifty of London ſent.
Archers, Harquebuſhes, Pikes, and Billes conuenient,
Which paſt from Douer to Calys: what ſernice Bowemen there
Performed, the Chronicles thereof at large do witneſſe beare.
But to bee braef, what Archers haue accompliſht Cheualry?
1523, 1524. In this Kings dayes to Gods dew praiſe and Contreyes vtility?
1542. The Duke of Suffolke paſſing Some, and Earle of Surrey then
1543. Which Ieduorth brent. And thoſe two Knightes withall the Northern
1544. Which ouerthrew the Scottiſh power. And thoſe to Launderſay (men
Eodem. Sent by the King. As alſo vnder Lorde Edward Seymer they
To Scotland which embarcked were. To Mutterell eke in Fraunce
Which ſent were, and the ſame beſeeged, by (Gods will,) not by chance
All theſe and euery hoaſte of them (I ſay) in this Kings time
Some part of proweſſe, praiſe, and proffet to the Bowe reſine.
K. Edward the 6 that Mirrour myld and pearle of Princely grace,
1549. His Uncle the Duke of Somerſet did ſend in rightfull caſe,
With Army vnder his conduct againſt the Scottiſh power,
Eche Army other did affront with countenance ſterne and ſtower:
Our Archers marched in aray at Muſkeleborow fælde,
They ſhot their ſhaftes ſo ſharp to foyle the Scots or make them yælde,

God

God gaue our men the victory, such they 14000 slewe
Of Scottes, and 1400. were tane Prisoners of their crewe,
Many of them Gentlemen: and but English three schore
At that time slaine, the rest aliue did praise the Lorde therefore.

Queene Maryes dayes most miserable and troublesome though they (were
Of Archers actes (nothing or small) the Chronicles witnesse beare.

ELIZABETH Gods Vizegerent our Gracious Soueraigne deare,
Which Ruleth now in Righteousnes her Subiects euery where:
Whome God a Mother ouer vs hath made in mylde mercy,
A Nurce of Peace and Amity eke to Nations farre and nye:
Began her raigne with Rooted truthe, whence blossomes all proceed
Of Blessings, as the Blissfull God doth Blessed make in deede.
Whose Frutes appearing at the first of **Amity**, **Loue**, and **Peace**,
First to **her owne**, to **Others** next, do more and more encrease:
First to **her owne**, Gods tender milcke of Gospell trewe gaue shee,
To vs, as Mothers Children giue by God his gift moste free:
To **Others** next as Nurse shee giues to Nacyons farre and neare,
The pappe of **Peace** and **Amity** the frutes of **Faith** sincere
In **One** respect our prosperous state so long possest, this showeth,
In th'**Other** a bettered state from worse to better by her groweth:
To witnesse this our publike **Wealth** and **Peace** Domestic Calles,
Her **Treasures** spent in our defence geanst **Forayn** foes and bralles.
Her Ancient **Lawes** and **Lyberties**, & **League** shee firme maintaines
To keep in **Mutuall Amity** vs with Neighbours, oh what gaines,
Is ours ꝑ is not hers? what paines, what cares, what cost, what charge?
Hath shee not had in forraine soile, to set the bond at large?
Witnes hereof, our Neighbours **Wars**, her **Grace**, and wee may bee,
That their welfare with oures also might in one will agree.
The state of **Fraunce**, of **Scotland**, and of **Contreyes** so distrest,
May witnes this, that they with vs by her are better blest:

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When woe to welfare altered is, when bale to bliſſe is chaungd,
Who frō this Bonde of Brotherhood now in Chriſt would be eſtrangd?
Ye Children then of Iacobs God, as Branches frutes which beare,
Ge. 49 Pray that your Bowes may ſtil faſt byde & armes ſtrong euery wheare:
Pray that this threefold Bond of Bliſſe neuer infringed may bee,
Of Nāturall loue, of Publike peace, and Mutuall amity:
Pray that our firme defence from God and Prince contenewe may,
Pray, that yearely, from yeare to yeare and many a yeare I ſay,
God her will graunt vs Neſtors yeares A Mother in Iſraell,
And that wee all Coheyres with Chriſt in Heauen aboue may dwell.

So be it. q. R. Robinſon.

Luke. 2.
Glory to God on hye, On Earth Peace,
And to Men a Goodwill.

At London
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1583.